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Volume 22



Number 1

The Primary Source

A Semiannual Publication of *The Society of Mississippi Archivists*

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Congressional Papers in Mississippi Repositories

Michael B. Ballard

Coordinator of the Congressional and Political Research Center
Mississippi State University Libraries

Historians and other researchers have begun to recognize over the last half century or so that the papers of United States senators and representatives are a treasure of information on many aspects of American life and on America's position on the world stage. These collections contain valuable data on cross-sections of the human experience, shedding light at once on political, social, familial, economic, governmental (all levels), scientific, military, racial and ethnic, environmental, and recreational developments and/or individuals involved in those various areas. Archivists face an enormous challenge in preserving and processing these collections, and making guides available that reflect the many nuances unique to each collection.

Mississippi repositories contain several significant congressional collections. Due to a lengthy state tradition of returning senators and representatives to Congress for many consecutive terms, the papers of congressmen tend to be voluminous and reflect extensive periods of history at the local, state, national and international levels. This edition of *The Primary Source* is intended to inform readers of congressional holdings in four major Mississippi repositories: The Congressional and Political Research Center-Mississippi State University Libraries; McCain Library and Archives-University of Southern Mississippi; Law Archives-University of Mississippi; and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Together these four locations contain a wealth of historical information in their congressional collections, information that reflects Mississippi's prominent role through the years at the highest levels of the United States government.

Michael B. Ballard
Guest Editor

(Dr. Ballard is a native of Ackerman, MS, and received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in history at Mississippi State University. He has been employed as an archivist in the MSU Libraries since 1983. He has held successively the posts of Associate University Archivist, University Archivist, and Coordinator of the Congressional Collection.)

CONGRESSIONAL AND POLITICAL RESEARCH CENTER
MITCHELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Established on November 12, 1999, the Congressional and Political Research Center contains the following core collections: John C. Stennis, G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, David Bowen, Charles Griffin, Chip Pickering, Mike Espy, Wiley Carter and Wayne Weidie. A web-site is available at <http://nt.library.msstate.edu/congressional/index.htm>. The site provides information about the Center, the collections, and links to other pertinent sites representing government and politics at the local, state, national, and international levels. A newsletter entitled *We The People*, available on the web site, is being published quarterly and distributed widely to provide news about the Center and about the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service. These latter two institutions are partnering with the Center and the MSU Libraries in putting together outreach programs on various aspects of government and politics.

THE COLLECTIONS

JOHN C. STENNIS

The Stennis Collection contains files, documents, photographs, audio/video material, oral histories, and memorabilia that document the career of United States Senator John C. Stennis, a Democrat from Mississippi who served in the Senate forty-two years. A few items relate to his pre-Senate career as a member of the Mississippi Legislature, as a District Attorney, and as a Circuit Judge. Senator Stennis was a Kemper County native, and an alumnus of Mississippi State University and the University of Virginia Law School. After leaving the Senate in 1989, Stennis resided on the MSU campus and lectured to political science classes until failing health forced him into a nursing home. He died in 1995.

Senator Stennis was a key player in the Joe McCarthy episode, and he served on a variety of significant committees. He was the first chair of the Select Committee on Standards and Conduct, was actively involved in the development of the U. S. space program via the Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, and was chair of the Armed Services Committee and its Preparedness Subcommittee. In the latter two positions, he had a highly visible role in the Vietnam War era. Stennis also was active in the Appropriations Committee, which he chaired near the end of his career, and was involved in transportation studies and legislation. Since he was serving in the Senate during the Civil Rights revolution of the 1960s, his papers reflect his active role on that era, both in Mississippi and nation-wide. Though he never served on foreign relations committees, Stennis kept abreast of world affairs. His interest in that area is documented in the collection, by such materials as a diary he kept during a trip to Russia in 1958. His collection thus provides rich details of world, American, and Mississippi history during the latter half of the twentieth century.

The Collection consists of some 2,500 cubic feet of materials arranged in over fifty series. The series arrangement is basically that devised by Stennis' office staff; the arrangement involved assigned subject areas with accompanying numerical code numbers. For example, Series 1 is The President, Series 2-Department of State, Series 3-Department of the Treasury, Series 4-Department of Defense, etc. This arrangement has created some processing problems because the original coding system was modified twice which meant that items in a subject series might have different code numbers, depending on their creation date. Therefore, to avoid having to create multiple sets of guides, we arbitrarily made the numbering system consistent for the files dated 1947-1977. In 1978, the Senator's staff starting using a Capitol Hill computer service that created computer printouts as guides to documents. The designation of documents was completely changed from the old numbering system to a more complex system. We are toying with the idea of taking these computer files and assigning them numbers under the old system in order to facilitate use by researchers. The problem is the enormous staff time this would take. It may be necessary to take that plunge, however, since toward the end of the Senator's career, when many of his veteran staffers were moving to other jobs, the computer-based numbering system broke down, and files were boxed without having been designated in the system. Such files are not coded at all; in fact they are just "there".

Since the Collection is mostly open (except for certain case files in various subject areas), we are prioritizing processing steps. Step one is to make sure we have all folder titles listed for each series and guides that describe and give locations of all other items. Then we will proceed with analysis and indexes. Some series in which we anticipate heavy research use have processed through the second priority level. Examples are Series 29-Civil Rights and Series 50-Politics. Our current thinking regarding computer applications is that we need to find a database that can be easily adapted to our web-site.

G. V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY

A native of Meridian and an alumnus of Mississippi State University, "Sonny" Montgomery was a decorated veteran of World War II, operated a successful insurance business in his home town, and began his public service career in 1956 when he was elected to the Mississippi Senate. In his ten years in the Senate, he never missed a vote. In 1966, Montgomery, a Democrat, was elected to the United States House of Representatives, Ninetieth Congress, from Mississippi's Fourth District (which later became the Third District). He served continually in the House until early January 1997. He was not defeated for re-election in 1996; he simply decided to retire from office.

The focus of Montgomery's years in the House was the U. S. military and service men and women. A career National Guardsman himself, Montgomery put much energy into building up the military and in seeing to it that veterans were taken care of. He chaired the House Veterans Affairs Committee and served for many years on the House Armed Services Committee. He concentrated especially on strengthening the Reserves and National Guard, and worked on several pieces of legislation to protect employment status and health and other benefits. He worked successfully with other members of the Mississippi delegation to save military bases in Mississippi, and was instrumental in getting the regional administrative office for the Veterans Health Administration moved to the state capitol at Jackson.

Congressman Montgomery followed the Vietnam War closely, making sure that Americans in Southeast Asia were sufficiently supported by the government. After the war, he was given the role of setting up the House Select Committee on U. S. Involvement in Southeast Asia as well as the House Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia. Until the time of his retirement, Montgomery played a major role in the ongoing POW/MIA issue, including efforts regarding the return of remains of American soldiers from North Korea.

The Congressman's proudest achievement by far was the passage in 1985 of what came to be known as the Montgomery G. I. Bill. The bill provides financial assistance for veterans to attend college after leaving the service. Its impact has been to improve recruitment and to provide veterans with better paying jobs. It is considered a landmark piece of legislation that appropriately bears the name of the man most responsible for its passage.

The Montgomery Collection consists of some 1,200 cubic feet of files, documents, books, photographs, tapes, and artifacts. It is primarily arranged in two year groupings by the number of the Congressional sessions in which Montgomery participated. Folder lists and finding aids with indexes to publications and photographs are in the process of being developed. The strength of the Collection is obvious; surely anyone interested in military affairs during the latter half of the twentieth century will find much pertinent information here. Also, Montgomery has had a long, close friendship with former President George Bush, and the Collection contains documentation of that friendship.

The Montgomery Collection is currently closed except for some public items (speeches, press releases, etc.). The earliest that the Collection could possibly be opened is January 3, 2007.

DAVID BOWEN

David Bowen was born in Houston, MS, and grew up in Cleveland, MS. Bowen's father was an alumnus of Mississippi State University. Bowen received his Bachelor's degree at Harvard University and a Master's from Oxford University in England. Prior to his election to Congress, Bowen taught history and political science at Millsaps College, served as Southeastern Coordinator for the Office of Economic Opportunity, was a staff associate for the United States Chamber of Commerce, and was coordinator of federal-state programs in Mississippi.

Bowen, a Democrat, ran for the United States Congressional seat from Mississippi's second district (which includes the Mississippi Delta) in 1972. He was elected and served continuously from 1973-1982; he chose not to run for reelection in 1982. After leaving Congress, Bowen served as a visiting professor at MSU in the Political Science Department, and has since served as a consultant in various areas and has

become an accomplished playwright. He also is a frequent contributor to the editorial pages of the *Clarion-Ledger*. He donated his papers to MSU in 1980.

The Bowen Collection consists some 270 cubic feet of files, documents, publications, photographs, and memorabilia. Much of the material reflects Bowen's interest and expertise in agricultural matters. He served on three House of Representatives subcommittees: Agriculture, Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and Foreign Affairs. In addition, he served on numerous subcommittees of these committees, chairing the Agriculture Subcommittee on Cotton, Rice, and Sugar, and participating on other Agriculture subcommittees including Oilseeds; Dairy and Poultry; Conservation and Credit; Forestry; and Department Operations and Foreign Agriculture. Bowen wrote and floor managed significant sections of omnibus farm bills in 1973, 1977, and 1981, the Rice Production Act of 1975, the Cotton Research and Promotion Act of 1976, the Forest Management Act of 1976, and legislation in 1981 and 1982 regarding agricultural export credits and revolving funds. He played key roles in securing funds for cotton research and preservation of acreage, in promoting increased agricultural production and markets in so-called Third World countries, and in expanding and protecting overseas markets for American farmers.

The Bowen Collection is open to researchers except for some case files and some unprocessed material. The bulk of the Collection is arranged in two-year segments by Congressional terms. The terms represented are the 93rd (1973-1974) through the 97th (1981-1982). A series called White Files contains general outgoing correspondence for the entire scope of Bowen's congressional career. Additional series have been created for materials which did not fit neatly into those mentioned above. They include: General Subject; General Correspondence; Mississippi Schools; Donner Foundation; Foreign Travel; Pre-Congress; Campaign Material; Public; Mississippi State University; Agriculture; Photographs; General Office; Memorabilia; Post-Congress.

CHARLES GRIFFIN

Charles Griffin was a native of Utica, MS, attended Hind Junior College and graduated from Mississippi State University. A World War II veteran, he entered public service in 1949 as a staff assistant to Mississippi Congressman John Bell Williams. Griffin remained on Williams' staff until the latter left Congress in 1968 to become governor of Mississippi. Griffin ran for Williams' Third District seat in a special election held in 1968 (the Third District then consisted of what is currently most of the Fourth District). Griffin won and was reelected to two succeeding terms (the 91st and the 92nd congresses.) He returned to Mississippi and entered the banking business. He also dabbled in real estate and public relations before returning to public service as secretary of the state senate. He died in 1989.

Griffin's service in the Congress was marked by his memberships on two House committees: Banking and Currency, and Merchant Marine and Fisheries. The collection is composed of 80 cubic feet of mostly files and documents. His papers are arranged by series, based upon subject content of the documents. The subject groupings include the following: Chronological General Correspondence; Correspondence-Specific Individual or Agency; Alphabetical Correspondence (Jackson office); Office Files (Washington) which include several sub-groups; District Office Files (Jackson); Newsletters, Press Releases, Radio Speeches, Congressional Statements; Personal Legislation; Mississippi and Mississippi Projects (contains several subgroups); Cross References (Green), refers to chronological correspondence; Cross References (Yellow), refers to Federal agencies and departments and has several subgroups; Committees, General; Banking and Currency Committee; Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee; Freedom Democratic Party; Miscellaneous. A weakness of the Collection is that it contains few photographs and memorabilia items, and no audio/visual material. The Griffin Collection is open.

MIKE ESPY

Mike Espy is a native of Yazoo City, MS, who received his B.A. degree at Howard University and his law degree at the University of Santa Clara. Prior to his election to Congress, he worked as a managing attorney for Central Mississippi Legal Services, as Mississippi Assistant Secretary of State responsible for

the Division of Public Lands, and as Mississippi Assistant Attorney General in which role he was Director of Mississippi Consumer Protection. In 1986, he was elected to represent Mississippi's Second Congressional District in the U. S. House of Representatives, becoming the state's first African-American congressman since Reconstruction. He was easily reelected in 1988, 1990, and 1992. He resigned his seat early in 1993 to accept a position as Secretary of Agriculture in the Bill Clinton administration.

While in Congress, Espy served on the Budget and Agriculture committees and on the Select Committee on Hunger. He was a member of several subcommittees of the Agriculture Committee: Cotton, Rice, and Sugar; Wheat, Soybeans, and Feed Grains; Domestic Marketing, Consumer Relations, and Nutrition; and Department Operations, Research, and Foreign Agriculture. He served on two Budget Committee subcommittees: Budget Process, Reconciliation and Enforcement; and community Development and Natural Resources. In his first term in Congress, Espy was the only freshman member to compose and have passed a major piece of legislation, the Lower Mississippi River Valley Delta Development Act. He also was responsible for the establishment of National Catfish Day, which brought worldwide attention to that industry, a major employer in the Mississippi Delta region.

Espy's tenure as Secretary of Agriculture was marked by administrative successes, but marred by criminal charges that he accepted unlawful gifts and favors. After a long, drawn-out trial procedure, Espy was ultimately cleared on all counts. During the course of the investigation, he resigned his secretary position and is now practicing law in Jackson, Mississippi.

The Espy Collection contains files, audio/visual material, publications, and memorabilia documenting his congressional career plus some personal files and other items from his work as Secretary of Agriculture. The collection is currently being processed, and most of the material will be opened to the public when processing is completed. An oral history project with Espy is in the planning stages.

CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

Chip Pickering is a native of Jones County and earned his B. A. degree at the University of Mississippi and a master's degree in business from Baylor University. He began his public service career as an assistant to Senator Trent Lott. In 1996, he was elected to represent Mississippi's Third Congressional District, succeeding the retiring Sonny Montgomery. He was reelected in 1998 and is the favorite to win reelection again in 2000. Congressman Pickering serves on the House of Representatives committees of Agriculture; Science; and Transportation and Infrastructure. His subcommittees include: (Agriculture)-Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research; Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry; (Science)-Basic Research, Space and Aeronautics; (Transportation and Infrastructure)-Aviation, Surface Transportation.

Congressman Pickering's office has not yet begun transferring materials to the Research Center.

WILEY K. CARTER

Wiley Carter was a native of Jackson, MS, and a long-time assistant to Senator Thad Cochran. Carter earned his B.S. degree at Mississippi State University, and spent most of his career in public service. He was an assistant to Mississippi Lieutenant Governor Carroll Gartin, a field representative to Mississippi Congressman John Bell Williams, and assistant director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Industrial Board. Beginning in 1973 and for the next twenty-five years, Carter served as an administrative assistant to then Congressman, later Senator, Thad Cochran, and at the time of his death in 1998, Carter was in charge of Cochran's Jackson, Mississippi, office.

The Carter Collection contains correspondence and other printed material related to all phases of his career, plus many photographs and memorabilia. The collection is in process and is closed pending renegotiation of the donor agreement with the Carter family. Carter's death was totally unexpected, thereby creating uncertainty regarding sections of the agreement.

WAYNE WEIDIE

Wayne Weidie is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and, since 1990 has been on the staff of Gene Taylor, Mississippi Congressman from the Fifth District. Weidie is currently Taylor's Chief of Staff.

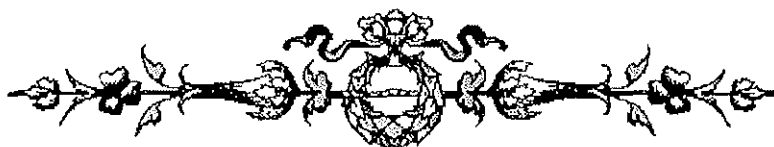
Weidie received his B.A. degree from Mississippi State University and also attended Louisiana State University. During his career he has been manager of Weidie Oil Company, Publisher and Editor of the *Ocean Springs Record* and *Gautier Independent*, a syndicated political columnist, and a political analyst for the Biloxi television ABC affiliate.

Weidie's collection consists largely of political memorabilia in various formats. The collection is currently in the processing stage and is closed to researchers. Additions are expected.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The Rubel L. Phillips Collection will be included in the Congressional Center, even though Phillips, a Republican Party pioneer in Mississippi in the 1960s, never served in Congress in any capacity. His collection is an example of the broad view we take in putting together a research center that focuses on political history at all levels.

The Manuscripts Division of the Special Collections area, MSU Libraries, contains many collections pertinent to the Congressional and Political Research Center. These include the Mississippi Republican Party Papers and several collections of prominent political journalists, such as Hodding Carter, Bill Minor, and Sid Salter. We will provide our patrons with cross reference information, both on our web site and in our reading room, about such collateral collections.



THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI LAW ARCHIVES

The Law Archives at the University of Mississippi School of Law contains the papers of several individuals who have been very influential in the political and legal affairs of Mississippi and the nation over the last sixty years. The initial acquisition was the U.S. Senate papers of James O. Eastland. These were followed by Senator Thad Cochran's files from the U.S. House of Representatives and his later Senate service. The most recent congressional acquisition was the papers of First District Congressman Jamie L. Whitten.

In early 1976, I was a graduate student in history at the University of Mississippi. I had no archival experience other than performing the first processing of the William M. "Fish Bait" Miller materials that had been sent to the University a year and a half before. The University did not have an archivist at the time. George M. Street, the Director of University Relations, had a keen sense of history and an appreciation of the value of archival collections. From his position at Ole Miss, he knew personally many of Mississippi's political and judicial leaders. Street worked quietly to exert his influence and persuasion to bring a number of collections to the University.

Through a fortuitous meeting in 1974, I came to Dr. Street's attention, and he asked me to make an inventory of "Fish Bait" Miller's House Doorkeeper's papers in preparation for Fish Bait's upcoming

book. That proved an especially interesting project, as I met with Mr. Miller on several occasions, and my wife and I had a thorough tour of the U.S. Capitol as only he could give it. The Miller papers offered a view of the now eliminated Doorkeeper's Office and contained such diverse items as bullets he acquired after the 1954 Puerto Rican nationalists' attack on the House Chamber and water glasses used by a long list of dignitaries who dined at the Capitol. The Miller Papers are presently in Archives and Special Collections at the University's J.D. Williams Library.

JAMES O. EASTLAND

In late 1975, Courtney C. Pace, Senator James Eastland's Administrative Assistant in the Washington office, had been talking to George Street about giving the Eastland office files to Ole Miss. Mr. Eastland was not intending to leave office, but having been in the Senate since January, 1943 (with an 88-day appointive term in the summer of 1941), his office was running low on storage space. In January 1976, Mr. Street asked me if I'd be willing to go to Washington to locate the various Eastland materials and prepare them for shipment back to Oxford. No one at the University knew the extent of the project, but I accepted and moved to the D.C. area, living with my parents in Alexandria, Virginia. I left behind my wife and three children in Oxford for what I thought would be a month or two -- the weeks stretched into six months before my family was able to join me.

Senator Eastland made me a member of his office staff which gave me more stature than if I'd only been a visitor from the University working in the office. My stay in Washington ultimately lasted three years, and may have continued for six additional years if the Senator had decided to run for a seventh term in 1978. However, in the summer of 1978, I had to begin shipping the first of the 2000 linear feet of files back to Oxford, plus office furniture, in preparation for the Senator's departure.

In 1976, the Senator and Mr. Pace had wisely realized they didn't need to wait until the last minute to consider the disposition of the office files in case of an emergency, and hence the call that brought me to Washington. But no one had a clear idea of where all the files were located. A large number were in the main Dirksen Senate Office Building suite, and some were scattered in the Dirksen basement (a humid place with air conditioning equipment, boilers, huge pipes and open condensation channels in the concrete flooring carrying water away from the equipment), and the earliest materials were in the Russell Senate Office Building attic. Russell was built in the first decade of the last century, and the attic contained more heating and cooling equipment mixed among with "lockers" or wire cages, some small and others fairly large. Because of his seniority, Mr. Eastland had one of the larger lockers. Attic Locker #2 was the home of most of the early Eastland files from the '40s to the mid-'fifties. There were rows of file cabinets, stacks of boxes, books and news film canisters -- all covered by a layer of oily dust. There also was a skylight with cracked glass, so when it rained, water dripped into the room and was absorbed by several cartons of *Congressional Records*.

My introductory interview with Senator Eastland went well, so I was able to begin work. I figured I would do best by starting chronologically with the project in the attic, particularly as the Dirksen basement working conditions were unpleasant. I had the broken skylight window fixed, got a broom, dustpan and some rags to be rid of the dirt and dust, and proceeded to the task. Two other housekeeping problems arose -- I soon found I had company in the form of rodents, and as the warmer weather came, the temperature and humidity increased. I dealt with the first calling the Senate Superintendent's Office who sent an employee with a large aluminum box with a spring mechanism into which the hapless rodent would disappear, never to be seen again. I dealt with the second myself, finding a hinged inspection hatch in a large air conditioning duct that traversed the locker ceiling. When I opened the hatch, refreshing cold air flooded the locker, making my life considerably pleasanter. I did live in a certain amount of fear that someone in Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield's office, which was located below me, would complain of a rise in temperature, and the air conditioning technicians would discover that I had been siphoning off the cool air.

The Russell attic files dealt with the period of the Senator's service from the 88-day appointive term, the 1942 campaign against Wall Doxey and the Bilbo faction, and then his activities in the Senate

from January 1943 up until the mid-'fifties. There were constituent case files, legislative files, records of assistance to Mississippi towns and cities, the beginnings of marked constituent interest in civil rights issues, and some reference to Mr. Eastland's committee membership. He served on the Judiciary Committee for thirty-five years, becoming the chairman in 1956, and was a member of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. The paucity of committee materials occurs in all the congressional collections as by law, committee files are under control of the Congress and on retirement are sent to the National Archives. Some original committee files inadvertently become part of the member's office files, but this is rare. I would have been ecstatic to have judgeship files from Judiciary from the 'sixties and beyond, but Francis C. Rosenberger, the staff director, said we'd both be spending time at the Federal penitentiary at Maxwell Air Force base if he agreed to that. I didn't pursue the request.

The latter Eastland materials were in the Dirksen basement and in the main office. Very little had been disposed of over the years. I understood from the press secretary, David Lambert, that a few of the main office files had been culled in 1972 as space was at a premium, but nothing beyond that was gone. It was so easy for a staff member to call the Superintendent's office to have a filled file cabinet removed to storage with an empty one brought promptly in its place, there was no incentive to throw anything away. I found signed copies of Presidential photographs, 16mm news film, 78rpm phonograph records with campaign jingles and boxes of newspaper clippings and photographs, many in the Russell attic, some stashed in closets and grimy file cabinets.

Senator Eastland was unfailingly cordial to me, but he showed little interest in talking about the past. He once told me he'd "lived through all that" and had no desire to go back over old times. I was most fortunate that Mr. Pace, his Administrative Assistant since the 1941 appointive term and friend and colleague since their service in the state legislature in the early 1930's, enjoyed reminiscing. He had known the Senator for over 45 years, and shared many of the same experiences while in public service. Though Mr. Pace's health was not particularly good during my Washington stay, if I was able to visit with him at certain times of the day when he was fresh, his memory could be excellent, and he loved to tell stories and answer any of my questions. Mr. Pace helped me immensely, and his sudden death a month after the office was closed in late December 1978 was a blow.

I also received encouragement and a lot of help from Mr. Eastland's legislative assistants, Bill Simpson, Sam Thompson and Frank Barber, along with David Lambert, the press secretary. All had stories to tell that brought alive what I was reading in the various storage locations. And too, when I was working in the main office, all kinds of people would come through. Visiting constituents from Mississippi, Strom Thurmond, Ted Kennedy, Griffin Bell (Attorney General in the Carter administration), and on a couple of occasions, Thomas ("Tommy the Cork") Corcoran of Roosevelt administration fame came by; I never knew whom I would see.

After the death of Senator John McClellan in November 1977, Senator Eastland took the McClellan "hideaway" office next to the last office in the Eastland suite. That enabled me to move down from the Russell attic, though I would still travel back and forth between the several storage sites. Again, the night before we were supposed to vacate the Eastland suite in December 1978, I had to maneuver around Senate carpenters and plumbers who were intent on modifying the quarters for the new tenant, Senator Ted Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy's staff was so large that the plumbers were dismantling one of the small office bathrooms where I understood a junior staffer was supposed to go.

The Judiciary Committee hearing room was directly across from the Eastland office, and I would frequently walk over and watch, especially when Mr. Eastland was presiding. I found it all very interesting and the experience aided me in understanding the people who made up the office, most of whom had been with the Senator for many years, a few since the earliest days. While some Senate office staffs have frequent changes in personnel, the Eastland staff was almost constant. When eating in the Senate cafeteria where staff members would come for breakfast and lunch, I felt old in my mid-thirties, and a few of the Eastland staff appeared quite old in comparison to the legions of young staffers just out of college who populated most congressional offices at that time (and still do).

Some feel the utility of congressional collections is limited due to their size. It's difficult to wade through redundant files that in the end may have marginal value. The Eastland Papers are an almost

complete record of a long serving, powerful Southern senator, but there is certainly room for weeding. Case files can be sampled, especially the later ones. Yet I thought the files from the '40s could be fascinating. They included such items as a penciled letter written by the mother attempting to find information on a son serving overseas during World War II, or someone seeking to enlist the Senator's help in a dispute with a government department. Such items spell out what issues were compelling enough to cause constituents to write their senator. In those early days, the office consisted of the Senator, Mr. Pace, and a secretary, Mrs. Jean Allen. When reading the yellow carbon replies to various letters, I looked at the drafter's and secretary's initials and could imagine those three working on the particular project. They were much older in 1976 when I knew them, but the line of continuity was unbroken for over thirty-five years. I found receipts from the Senate stationery store, along with phone bills and other mundane records, some of which could be discarded, but the completeness of the Eastland materials allows an examination of the operation of his office for three and a half decades.

When I returned to the University on 3 January 1979, I brought Mr. Eastland's desk from his Dirksen office, along with a number of pieces of furniture that we placed in the "Eastland Room" in the Law Library, along with photographs and other memorabilia.

Restrictions on the Eastland Collection will expire in February 2001, but to date they have not been processed to the extent that they could be used by scholars at that time.

JAMIE L. WHITTEN

In June 1994, I was asked by the Chancellor's office to go to Congressman Jamie L. Whitten's office in the Rayburn House Office Building to locate his files and send them back to the University. This time, I only had six months to pack up fifty-three years of materials, and although House members usually accumulate fewer linear feet of files than senators, I had to attempt to maintain a semblance of my "normal" job as Assistant to the Dean at the Law School. It all worked with the help of a pager, cell phone and Mr. Whitten's fax machine, and every fifth week, I returned to Ole Miss to catch up on my Law School duties.

The extent of the Whitten Papers turned out to be around 1100 linear feet, and in organization they were similar to Mr. Eastland's. Both Eastland and Whitten were essentially pre-computer, with Selectric typewriters doing most of the work from the '70s on. When I was there in 1994, staff members had simple "386" PCs, but what I was used to at the Law School was more advanced at the time. This relative non-mechanization makes both the Eastland and Whitten papers similar in design and content. There is incoming correspondence with yellow (or in the case of Whitten, other colors) carbons stapled to the original letter or document, but the basic organization was the same with legislative files, case files for individuals or governmental entities, housekeeping files, speech files and collections of photographs, film, videotape and other media.

The Whitten staff was older and more unchanging than the staffs of most other House members, but when I was present, none of the active people had served with Mr. Whitten in the earliest times. The Administrative Assistant, Hal DeCell, had been in the office for a number of years, and his predecessor, Buddy Bishop, went back many years and though retired, would stop by the office from time to time and talk with me. All the staff members assisted me with my packing, but with the dearth of time, I didn't have the luxury of a careful examination of each box. I was under a definite deadline.

Mr. Whitten chose not to send the constituent case files back to Oxford for reasons of confidentiality, so that element of the papers was lost when the Superintendent's office took them to the incinerator. Everything else came, although I took several boxes of personal items, old personal checks and invoices to Mr. Whitten's son's house. The Whitten files contain routine correspondence relating to assistance to municipalities, agriculture, and waterway management. A sizeable portion pertains to the appropriations process in that his committee affiliation was in that area, and his national reputation in later years was built on his considerable expertise on that subject.

Both Mr. Eastland and Mr. Whitten were first in seniority in their respective Congresses. Both had large, very comfortable offices, especially Mr. Whitten's when one considers how cramped the average

House member's quarters are. Representative Lee Hamilton of Indiana succeeded to Mr. Whitten's seniority and took over the Whitten office in December 1994. Indeed, the last night before the mandatory departure day, House carpenters and plumbers invaded the office, beginning the modification work even as I was attempting to remove the last boxes.

The Whitten Collection is scheduled to be opened in August 2004, but unless considerable processing is done in the interim, it will not be accessible to scholars by that time.

THAD COCHRAN

Senator Thad Cochran began his congressional service in the House in 1972 from the Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Cochran entered the Senate on December 27, 1978, when retiring Senator Eastland stepped down several days early to give his replacement seniority over the entering group of new senators who would not assume office until January. In 1980, Mr. Cochran concluded that he did not want to keep his obsolete files in his office or the Federal Records Center in Suitland, Maryland, so he made contact with George Street to begin the process of transferring his older files to Ole Miss. This is the approach the Senate Historian has long been advocating for new senators. Rather than wait until defeat, retirement or death to disperse the files, choose a repository early in the career, and conduct the transferal on a scheduled basis to avoid a possible crisis.

Senator Cochran requested a representative of the University come to Washington to inventory his six years of House files and the beginnings of his Senate materials. We selected a recent Ole Miss Law School graduate, Tom Wicker, who moved to Washington for a year and did an admirable job of shipping the House files and obsolete Senate materials back to Oxford. With the process begun, other Cochran staff members have sent noncurrent files back to Ole Miss, usually on a semiannual basis. This has insured Mr. Cochran does not have to store his old files in the dank storage lockers, and the materials are at Ole Miss, theoretically being prepared for processing. I have been called upon a number of times to locate file folders from Cochran boxes in the Archives for current use in Washington, and so far, the system has worked well.

The Cochran papers are similar to the earlier Eastland and Whitten files in many ways with one important difference. Both the Senate and the House now employ computerization in every facet of the correspondence process. Long gone are carbon manifolds and correction fluid with the advent of sophisticated computerized procedures. This has affected the production of responses to constituent requests for assistance. Case files are harder to sift through than when staff members handled them with typewriters, though about two years ago, a method was adopted by the Senate that makes it easier to follow the process. I receive about fifty linear feet of files a year from the Senator's Washington and Jackson offices.

As is the case with the Eastland and Whitten papers, Senator Cochran's several committee memberships involve aspects of agriculture and water management, causing these themes to appear in correspondence, legislation and other records. He is also chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Governmental Affairs Committee.

The Cochran papers are in effect on deposit. A specific opening date has not been set.

JUDICIAL COLLECTIONS

Also part of the Law Archives are the judgeship papers of Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge James P. Coleman, Federal District Court Judges Claude F. Clayton and Orma R. Smith, and the American Bar Association papers of John Satterfield. These materials have not been processed at all.

STORAGE OF COLLECTIONS

Most of the holdings of the Law Archives are housed in the first floor library stacks of the "old" Law

the home of the Law School since 1978. Both locations are unsatisfactory for the storage, processing and use of archival materials. Temperature and humidity controls are marginal, and work areas and space for patrons are almost nonexistent. I understand there are plans for an extensive addition to Lamar Hall, but funding will not be available for several years, so space for the Archives may not materialize until five or six years from now. My hope is that when an archives addition reaches the serious planning stage, those responsible will insist on National Archives standards employing the latest design and equipment. These valuable collections for which we are stewards deserve no less.

John Sobotka
Assistant to the Dean
School of Law, University of Mississippi

(John Sobotka is a graduate of the University of Tennessee with a B.A. in history and holds an M.A. in history and an M.L.S. from the University of Mississippi. He has held his current position in the University of Mississippi's School of Law since 1981. Mr. Sobotka is also a retired member of the United States Air Force Reserve.)



CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS ARCHIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Congressional papers are normally defined to include those of Senators as well as Representatives. There are four collections of Mississippi Congressional papers in the Archives of The University of Southern Mississippi. They are the papers of Governor and Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, Representative William M. Colmer (Sixth/Fifth District), Representative Mike Parker (Fourth District), and Representative Larkin Smith (Fifth District).

Theodore G. Bilbo Papers, 1910-1947, 690 cu.ft.

Personal, professional, gubernatorial, and senatorial papers, including speeches, correspondence, campaign materials, subject files, newspaper clippings, photographs, memorabilia, and an almost complete run of the *Mississippi Free Lance* newspaper. A detailed finding aid and a photograph log are available in paper.

William M. Colmer Papers, 1933-1973, 365 cu.ft.

Congressional papers, including speeches, bills, subject and position files, news releases, correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, and memorabilia. A finding aid to the first accession *The William M. Colmer Papers, 1933-1962*, written by Colmer's long-time administrative assistant Waller Batson, was published by The University of Southern Mississippi Press in 1970. Later accessions, covering 1962 through 1973, are unprocessed and at this time not available to researchers.

Mike Parker Papers, ca. 1988-1998, 200 cu.ft.

Congressional papers. Closed by donor.

Larkin Smith Papers, ca. 1988-1999, 64 cu.ft.

Congressional papers. Closed until processed.

THEODORE G. BILBO

Listen, Mr. Bilbo, listen to me.
I'll give you a lesson in history.
Listen and I'll show you that the foreigners you hate
Are the very same people made America great.

In 1492 just to see what he could see
Columbus, an Italian, looked out across the sea.
He said, "Isabella, babe, the world is round,
And the U.S.A.'s just a-waiting to be found.

...

When the King of England started pushing Yankees around,
We had a little trouble up in Boston town.
There was a brave Negro, Crispus Attucks was the man,
Was the first one to fall when the fighting began.

...

Well, you don't like Negroes, you don't like Jews.
If there is anyone you do like, it sure is news.
You don't like Poles, Italians, Catholics, too.
Is it any wonder, Bilbo, that we don't like you!

(Listen, Mr. Bilbo recorded by Pete Seeger in 1946. Words and music by Bob and Adrienne Claiborne. Copyright 1946 by Bob Miller Publishing.)

Theodore G. Bilbo, the thirty-second governor of Mississippi, was perhaps the most controversial figure ever to serve as chief executive of the state.

He was born on October 13, 1877, at Juniper Grove in Pearl River County. He attended Vanderbilt University, and taught school for six years. In 1908 he was admitted to the bar in Tennessee but began the practice of law in Poplarville, Mississippi.

Bilbo entered politics in 1909 as state senator from the Fourth District. Before the end of his term, an unsuccessful effort was made by the Senate to expel him after the first of several accusations of accepting bribes. In 1911 Senator Bilbo ran a stormy campaign for lieutenant governor and won, serving with Governor Earl L. Brewer. Four years later Bilbo ran for governor and was elected over four opponents.

Governor Bilbo was inaugurated on January 18, 1916, and over the next four years his administration was as progressive as any in the history of the state. His administration instituted notable reforms in the highway system, in fiscal policies, and in education. During his administration the State Tax Commission, the Mississippi Industrial Training School, the Game and Fish Commission, the State Plant Board, and the State Board of Embalming were established.

Bilbo was a candidate for reelection in 1923 but lost to Henry L. Whitfield. In 1927 he ran again, with M.S. Conner, A.C. Anderson, and Governor Dennis Murphree as opponents. Although he led Governor Murphree by nearly 65,000 votes in the first primary, Bilbo narrowly won the second by slightly over 10,000 votes.

Governor Bilbo was inaugurated his second term on January 17, 1928. Controversies dominated the next four years. Significant issues included a state-owned printing plant, brick roads, the removal of the University of Mississippi to Jackson, the firing of college presidents and professors, and the building

of the Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield. Two state officials were impeached, one resigned, and one was exonerated. The Depression added to Governor Bilbo's troubles, and when he went out of office in 1932, both he and the state were bankrupt.

In 1934 Governor Bilbo ran for the United States Senate against Senator Hubert D. Stephens, Ross A. Collins, and Frank H. Harper. Although Stephens led in the first primary, Governor Bilbo won in the second by about 6,000 votes. He was re-elected in 1940 over Governor Hugh L. White. In 1946 he defeated four opponents for a third term. Bribery charges against Bilbo led to Senate refusal to allow him to take his seat when he appeared to be sworn for the third time. He died of cancer in New Orleans on August 21, 1947, with the controversy over his Senate seat still unresolved.

The Theodore G. Bilbo Papers were donated to The University of Southern Mississippi in 1961 by Senator Bilbo's son and daughter, Col. Theodore G. Bilbo, Jr. and Mrs. Jessie Bilbo Burge. They are the accumulated papers of a man who apparently never threw away a scrap of paper generated by him or written to him or about him. Most of the papers had been stored in the attic of The Dream House, Bilbo's mansion near Poplarville; but some had been kept in a barn on the property, where rodents and other critters had damaged them.

The Bilbo Papers had been previously solicited by USM President, Dr. William D. McCain, who had served as director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History from 1938-1955 before accepting the presidency of the university in 1955. The papers arrived on campus in 500 canvas mail sacks and 150 cardboard boxes. At the time the Bilbo Papers were the largest gift of the papers and books of a public figure ever made in the history of the state.

The papers were, needless to say, no longer in their original order. Processors, working under Dr. McCain's general supervision, established seven subgroups:

- I. Early Life and Politics Through First Governorship, 1905-1920
- II. Private Law Practice and *Mississippi Free Lance*, 1920-1928
- III. Second Term as Governor, 1928-1932
- IV. Private Law Practice, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1932-1935
- V. United States Senate, 1935-1947
- VI. Photographs
- VII. Artifacts, Broad sides, Miscellaneous Oversize Materials

The Theodore G. Bilbo Papers at USM are an excellent source of information for researchers interested in both the colorful life of a complex public servant and in issues of concern to Mississippians and other Americans during the period covered by the papers. As President McCain said, "The state's economy, politics, planning, educational facilities and changes, almost every facet of Mississippi and its people is contained in this collection, made by a little man, with false teeth and corns, a fellow who had all the frailties of the common man who loved him" (cited in Elliott Chaze, "The Bilbo Papers," *Dixie Roto* section of *The Times-Picayune*, June 3, 1962).

The Gubernatorial files document his achievements in the area of social legislation during his first term and his attacks on Mississippi's system of higher education during his second. Students of African American history and race relations have found the Senatorial subject files to be especially valuable. Whether Senator Bilbo merits the historical condemnation based on his reputation as a race-baiting demagogue is questionable. However, his opposition to the 1938 anti-lynching bill and his negative views of Negroes (24 folders), issues related to race (24 folders), Jews (7 folders), Catholics (2 folders), and Italians (2 folders) are well documented.

Also of interest are three folders of newspaper articles and editorials by Bilbo's arch-critic Fred Sullens, editor of the *Jackson Daily News*.

The challenges to the processors of the Bilbo Papers were three-fold. The first concerned the size of the overall collection. Estimates at the time of the donation indicated over one million items, including one of the Senator's suits (which was transferred to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History), and some 10,000 books (which became part of the USM Libraries' collections). Secondly, the bulk of the

papers were not in their original order, so an appropriate order had to be established by the processors. Lastly, the collection comprised Bilbo's personal papers as well as his professional, Gubernatorial, and Senatorial papers. The following arrangement was developed:

SUBGROUP I: EARLY LIFE AND POLITICS THROUGH FIRST GOVERNORSHIP, 1905 - 1920

A. Personal Papers:

1. Personal Items, 1905-1906
2. *Vanderbilt Comet*, 1906
3. Family Correspondence and Papers, 1910-1920
4. Correspondence, Personal and Campaign, 1910-1911

B. Bribery Trial, 1910

C. Speeches and Messages:

1. Inaugural Address, January 18, 1916
2. Messages to the Legislature, 1916-1918

D. Miscellaneous:

1. Mississippi Choctaw Investment Company, 1917
2. State Documents and Related Items, 1913-1920
3. State Hospital for the Insane, Audit, 1911-1913
4. Miscellaneous Documents, 1916-1919

E. Newspaper Clippings, 1920

SUBGROUP II: PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE AND MISSISSIPPI FREE LANCE, January 21, 1920 - January 16, 1928

A. Personal Papers:

1. Family Correspondence
2. Farm Matters
3. Legal Documents and Agreements

B. Correspondence, Personal

C. Correspondence, Campaign, 1922-1923

D. *Mississippi Free Lance*:

1. *Free Lance* Audit, 1925
2. General Correspondence
3. Subscription Correspondence
4. Bound volumes of *Mississippi Free Lance*

E. Requests for Information:

1. General Information Requests
2. Information Requests Concerning the State Printing Plant / Free Textbooks

F. Requests for Influence and Assistance:

1. General
2. Employment

G. Speaking Engagement Requests

H. Campaign Materials, 1926-1927 and Undated

I. Pardon Petitions, 1920-1927

J. Miscellaneous:

1. Audit of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Colleges and University, 1920-1923
2. Petitions for an Audit of Lincoln Cty. Financial Records, 1924
3. Mississippi Building Commission, Financial Statement, 1927
4. Junior Order United American Mechanics, 1920-1924
5. Senator Oscar W. Underwood (Alabama) Presidential Campaign, 1923-1924
6. Railroad Tax Assessments, 1927

- 7. Miscellaneous Correspondence and Items
- 8. Miscellaneous Correspondence and Items Not Addressed to Bilbo
- K. Newspaper Clippings, 1921-1927

SUBGROUP III: SECOND TERM AS GOVERNOR, January 17, 1928 - January 19, 1932

- A. General Correspondence
- B. Subject File (see list)
- C. Newspaper Clippings

SUBGROUP IV: PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, January 20, 1932 - January 2, 1935

- A. General Correspondence
- B. Newspaper Clippings

SUBGROUP V: UNITED STATES SENATE, January 3, 1935 - August 21, 1947

- A. General Correspondence
- B. Subject Files — subject list available
- C. Newspaper Clippings

SUBGROUP VI : PHOTOGRAPHS Photograph log available

SUBGROUP VII : ARTIFACTS, BROADSIDES, MISCELLANEOUS OVERSIZE MATERIALS

WILLIAM M. COLMER

William M. Colmer was born February 11, 1890, in Moss Point near Pascagoula, MS and was educated in the Gulfport public schools. He attended Millsaps College in Jackson and taught school in Lumberton from 1914 to 1917 while studying law on the side. He was admitted to the bar in 1917. He served in World War I, leaving the service with the rank of regimental sergeant major, and practiced law in Pascagoula.

Colmer got into politics in 1921 when he was elected Jackson County Attorney. In 1928 he was elected District Attorney and held that post until he was elected to his first term in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1933. Although he entered the Congress as a Franklin D. Roosevelt New Dealer and remained a life-long member of the Democratic Party, he frequently supported Republican candidates and his political philosophy evolved toward the conservatism of a white Southern democrat.

His forty-year tenure in the House spanned the economic depression of the thirties, three wars, and the Civil Rights Movement. When he retired in January 1973, he had served in the Congress longer than any other Mississippian.

Capitalizing on the Congressional seniority system, Colmer became a bastion of conservatism in the House. He was named a member of the powerful House Rules Committee in 1939, and he served as vice-chairman for twelve years from 1954-1966 and as chairman for seven years from 1966-1973. He led a conservative coalition which periodically dominated the fifteen-person panel and frustrated the legislative objectives of liberal leaders. He survived several attempts to break conservative control of the committee, including a move in 1961 to oust him from the committee. Instead the committee was enlarged in order that President John F. Kennedy's legislative program could go forward.

In 1942 Congressman Colmer was named one of the two members representing the House on the National Forest Reservation Commission. In 1948 he was one of the organizers of the informal House Southern Group and was elected its chairman.

Congressman Colmer served as chairman of the Special Committee on Post-War Economic Policy

and Planning which was charged with planning a smooth conversion to a peace-time economy. The committee's recommendations paved the way for the Marshall Plan for the economic recovery of Europe, and anticipated the Cold War as a result of interviews conducted with Soviet leader Joseph Stalin during a two-month fact-finding trip to Europe in the fall of 1945.

After the death of Senator Theodore G. Bilbo in 1947, Congressman Colmer ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the U.S. Senate. All of his nineteen campaigns for the Fifth Congressional Seat in the U.S. House of Representatives were successful. One of Colmer's aides was Republican Trent Lott, who succeeded Colmer with Colmer's blessing.

In 1968 Congressman Colmer expressed his intention to USM President William M. McCain to donate his papers, which he described as "the records of one humble Member of the Congress whose people honored him by electing him to represent them in the House longer than anyone else from our State" (letter of October 4, 1968, to Dr. McCain, William M. Colmer Papers case file). Colmer died in Pascagoula on September 9, 1980, at the age of ninety.

The Congressional papers of William M. Colmer in the USM Archives cover the period 1933-1973 and consist of approximately 365 cubic feet of records. They were donated to the University of Southern Mississippi by Congressman Colmer in three accessions: the first accession, covering the years 1933-1962, in 1970; the second accession, 1932-1969, in September 1972; and the third accession, 1963-1972, in December 1972. The second and third accessions were transferred to USM by Colmer's aide Trent Lott. Additional material was donated in 1982 by Mrs. William M. Colmer with the assistance of their son James H. Colmer.

A printed guide to the papers in the first accession was prepared by Waller Batson, who served as Congressman Colmer's Administrative Assistant from 1933 to 1969. It is entitled *The William M. Colmer Papers, 1933-1962, 73rd through 87th Congress* and was published by the University of Southern Mississippi Press in 1970. Batson's typewritten guide to the second and third accessions is also available to researchers. The in-house copies of both guides have been annotated to indicate current boxing. All materials are open to researchers with the exception of personal and miscellaneous papers, which have not been processed.

FIRST ACCESSION, 1933-1962

SUBJECT FILES

POSITION FILES

LEGISLATION

Bills introduced or rules handled by Congressman Colmer, 1933-1962

Correspondence

Special Committee on Post-War Economic Policy and Planning, 1944-1946

SPECIAL FILES

Newsletters, 1935-1960

SPEECHES, 1933-1962

Speeches, statements, news releases, *Congressional Record* tearsheets.

LISTS, 1933-1962

LARKIN SMITH

The Congressional papers of U.S. Representative Larkin Smith were donated to the USM Archives in 1997 by his widow Mrs. Sheila Smith of Long Beach, with the assistance of his Congressional chief of staff, Mr. Cy Faneca of Gulfport.

Larkin Smith was a native of Poplarville and a veteran Gulf Coast law enforcement officer. He was elected in 1988 to the U.S. House of Representatives from the Fifth District to fill the seat vacated by the election of Trent Lott to the U.S. Senate. In August 1989 he was tragically killed in the crash of a plane while returning to Gulfport from a speaking engagement in Hattiesburg.

Smith had a respected 23-year career as an effective and innovative law enforcement officer. He first joined the Pearl River County Sheriff's Department in 1966 and rose to the position of chief deputy. He served as chief investigator in the Harrison County Sheriff's Department from 1972-1977, leaving when he was appointed chief of police in Gulfport. In 1983, running as a reform candidate, he defeated the incumbent to become Sheriff of Harrison County and was re-elected to a second term with 75 per cent of the vote.

While Sheriff of Harrison County, Smith served as coordinator of the Blue Lightning Operations Center, an anti-drug trafficking task force for three states, and as president of the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Association. He successfully lobbied for the passage of a state law requiring minimum training standards for law enforcement officers and worked to promote higher education in law enforcement. Smith was a graduate of Pearl River Junior College and William Carey College.

During his second term as Harrison County Sheriff, Smith, a Republican, was elected to fill Trent Lott's Fifth District seat in the U.S. Congress, representing an area in south Mississippi that includes Hattiesburg and the Gulf Coast.

During his short eight month period of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, Larkin Smith impressed members of both parties and the House leadership as a very promising public servant. He was designated Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, a rare position for a freshman congressman. The designation, Ranking Member, made Smith the most senior Republican on the committee even though he was a freshman. He was also selected by the House leadership to serve on task forces on defense, crime, and the savings and loan industry. He was the first non-lawyer to sit on the House Judiciary Committee.

Senator Trent Lott characterized Representative Larkin Smith as "aggressive" and "a do-er:" "When the people he served needed something done, he did it." Cy Faneca, Smith's chief of staff and now an attorney in Gulfport, remembered him as someone who had "that unusual quality of being able to generate electricity in any setting."

Larkin Smith was a popular and respected public servant whose memorial service in the Gulf Coast Convention Center was attended by over 6,000 mourners.

The Larkin Smith Papers in the USM Archives consist of approximately 64 cubic feet of materials from his congressional office. They will be open to researchers as soon as they have been processed.

MIKE PARKER

U.S. Representative Mike Parker (Republican, Fourth District) donated his papers to the USM Archives in 1998. The Collection includes Congressional papers and campaign materials which document his representation of the Fourth District from 1988-1998. The gift came to USM through the good offices of President Horace W. Fleming.

Congressman Parker served on the House Appropriations Committee with subcommittee responsibilities for Energy and Water Development, Treasury, Postal Service and General Government, and the District of Columbia. His previous committee assignments included the House Budget Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

During his ten-year period of service in the House, Congressman Parker devoted special attention to health care reform, Job Corps vocational education programs in rural America, federal

budget reform, and the economic development of the Fourth District.

Parker was born in Laurel, MS, in 1949 and grew up in Meadville, graduating from Franklin High School in 1967. He earned an undergraduate degree at William Carey College in Hattiesburg in 1970 and took graduate course work at the University of Southern Mississippi before beginning a career in business. At Congressman Parker's request, his papers will be closed until a date to be announced in the future.

Bobs M. Tusa

For additional information see the USM Archives website at <www.lib.usm.edu/~archives> under 'Mississippi Politicians Collections' or contact Bobs Tusa at (601) 266-4348 or <Bobs.Tusa@usm.edu>.

(Dr. Bobs has a B.A. in history from Baylor University, a master's degree in library science from the University of Alabama, and a Ph.D. in Spanish and Romance philology from Tulane University. She came to USM from a similar position at Louisiana Tech University. Prior to that time, she worked at Loyola University in New Orleans for seventeen years as University Registrar and as assistant director of the Spanish Documents Project for the microfilming of colonial Louisiana documents in the national archives of Spain. She has served as University Archivist at The University of Southern Mississippi for four years.)



CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS AT THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Included in the Records of United States Congressmen (Record Group 59) at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History are quite a number of small series of materials related to approximately 30 Mississippi senators and representatives from both the 19th and 20th centuries, amounting to approximately 10 cubic feet. The series include speeches, bills introduced by the congressman, extracts from the *Congressional Record*, and some correspondence; most of this material appears to have been collected and compiled by archives staff. However, the bulk of the record group is composed of materials pertaining to the congressional careers of John Sharp Williams and John Bell Williams.

JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS

John Sharp Williams was born July 30, 1854, in Memphis, Tennessee. His parents were Colonel Christopher Harris, Jr. and Annie Louise Sharp Williams. His mother died before the Civil War and his father was killed in the battle of Shiloh. After his father's death, Williams was taken to his father's plantation near Yazoo City where he spent his youth. He was educated at the Kentucky Military Institute in Franklin County, Kentucky, at the University of Virginia, and at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. After this basic education, he studied law at the University of Virginia and at a law office in Memphis; he was admitted to the bar in Memphis in 1877.

On October 2, 1877, John Sharp Williams married Elizabeth Dial Webb of Livingston, Alabama. In the following year, the family returned to Yazoo City to the family plantation, and for the next 15 years Williams practiced law and raised cotton. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1893, and he served in that body from March 4, 1893, to March 3, 1909. During his tenure, he was well known as a skillful debater, and he was able to bring order to the Democrats in the House when he was elected leader of the Democratic majority. He held that position during his last three terms.

Williams did not run for a seat in the Sixty-first Congress (1909-1911) but instead was a candidate for the United States Senate. Following a bitter campaign with James K. Vardaman, Williams won election and served in the senate from March 4, 1911, to March 3, 1923. He was a strong supporter of the policies of President Wilson in regard to entering World War I and joining the League of Nations.

During his terms of office in both the House and Senate, Williams was popular with colleagues of both political parties. He was recognized for his calmness in approaching any debate and his lack of formality. Williams was often referred to as "the most consistent Jeffersonian Democrat of his day." Following his retirement from the Senate, Williams lived at "Cedar Grove" near Yazoo City until his death in 1932.

Records of John Sharp Williams in Record Group 59 include correspondence (1894-1929), speeches, legislation, printed material (1900-1939), newspaper clippings, and drafts of his 1912 lectures at Columbia and subsequent publication entitled *Thomas Jefferson, His Permanent Influence on American Institutions* (approximately 25 cubic feet). There are also two small collections of Williams materials in the manuscript collections of the department. The collection numbers are Z/1715 (2 items) and Z/1715.001 (1.6 linear feet).

JOHN BELL WILLIAMS

John Bell Williams was born in Raymond, MS, on December 4, 1918. He completed a two-year course of study at Hinds County Junior College in 1936 and received a law degree from the Jackson School of Law. He was married to Elizabeth Ann Wells, and they were the parents of three children.

During World War II, Williams served in the Army Air Corps as pilot of a B-52. On one mission during the war, his plane crashed on British Guiana killing all others on board, and leaving Williams with severe arm and leg injuries. He lost a portion of one arm as a result of the crash.

Williams was elected to congress in 1946 at the age of 27. He served from 1946 to 1967, never having any difficulty in winning reelection. He was conservative Democrat and a segregationist who denounced the 1954 Supreme Court desegregation order and the 1964 Civil Rights Act. As a congressman, he was a strong opponent of Federal involvement in state government.

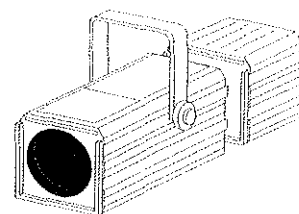
Because of his strong conservatism and independent stance, Williams supported the Dixiecrat party in 1948 and the Republican Party in 1964. As a result of his 1964 support of Goldwater for president, Williams was stripped of his seniority in the house. This action ultimately led to his 1967 campaign for governor of Mississippi, in which he defeated several opponents including William Winter and Ross R. Barnett. During Williams' term of office as governor from 1968-1972, he focused on economic development, tax reform, highway and education programs, and teacher salary increases. Although he had been opposed to Federal involvement in state government as a congressman, he was the first governor to establish an office to bring Federal money into the state. Hurricane Camille made a direct hit on the Mississippi coast during the Williams administration, and he spent two weeks in the coastal area helping with the cleanup. Williams died of a heart attack in Brandon in March 1983.

Records of John Bell Williams in RG 59 include speeches and press releases (1945-1968), House bills and resolutions (1946-1967), *Congressional Record* extracts (1947-1967), and U. S. Service Academies correspondence (1952-1968) (7.66 cubic feet). There are eight cubic feet of Post Office correspondence files, but the bulk of the material is constituent correspondence, dating from 1946 to 1968 (131.50 cubic feet). Both of the large series are arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

Sandra Boyd

(Sandra E. Boyd holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in English from Mississippi College and a Master of Library Science from the University of Southern Mississippi. She taught at Hinds Community College and worked in McCain Library and Archives before accepting a position with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in 1991. She is currently Branch Director of the Paper Archives Section with the Archives and Library Division of the department.)

Spotlight on Mississippi Archives



DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES CAPPS ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM BUILDING

The Delta State University Archives began in 1968 with the donation of the Walter Sillers, Jr. Papers by his widow, Lena Sillers. These papers are a treasure-trove for those interested in Mississippi political and legislative history and the development and activities in the Delta, ca. 1916-1966. Additional Sillers family papers followed, including those of Walter Sillers, Sr., newspaper columnist Florence Sillers Ogden, and Florence Warfield Sillers.

These papers were the seeds of a growing manuscript collection at the university. The late Sammy Cranford, DSU history professor and archivist, also began collecting university records and oral histories. This expansion led Cranford to seek support and funding for a separate building for the university's collections. With the support of Representative Charlie Capps, the money was appropriated for the construction project, and the Charles W. Capps, Jr. Archives and Museum Building was dedicated in 1997.

With the building came a commitment from the university to mount an ongoing effort to document the history and culture of the Delta through the collection of additional historical records. The historical manuscript collection and university records holdings have grown to over 900 cubic feet in 116 manuscript collections and 46 record groups. Subject areas in which the collections are particularly strong include the history and settlement of Delta towns, plantation operation, social life and customs, Mississippi politics and government, 19th- and 20th-century women, especially their participation in politics, levees and floods, Delta Council, World War I, ethnic groups in the Delta, and Delta State University.

The Archives also supports an active oral history program. Building on the efforts of Cranford and former history department chair Bill Cash, the oral history collection now contains over 280 oral history interviews. Forty of those record university history and came from the department's participation as a pilot project site in the Mississippi Humanities Council Mississippi Oral History Project. The Archives have also worked with the Humanities Council on the oral history projects "Patchwork of Mississippi" and "The Mississippi-Delta-Chinese."

Additionally, the Archives coordinates an active exhibition schedule, mounting displays from its own holdings, hosting traveling exhibitions, and sponsoring brown-bag lunches and lecturers in connection with the exhibitions. These efforts are part of the department's outreach efforts to the university and the community.

Do you have a person, project, or institution you would like to highlight in a future issue of the journal?
Contact the editor at irmgard.wolfe@usm.edu

Reports

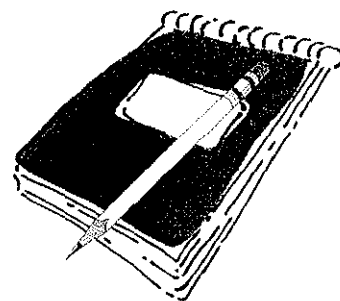
RARE BOOK SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION TO RARE BOOK LIBRARIANSHIP

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

January 9-14, 2000

Reported by Peggy Price, Special Collections Librarian,
McCain Library and Archives, University of Southern Mississippi



Rare Book School features week-long courses on a variety of topics related to books and the book arts. Small classes provide an intimate setting for lectures, discussions and, depending on the course, hands-on training. Book Arts Press runs the operation, which is housed at the University of Virginia. The Press evolved from Terry Belanger's curriculum at the School of Library Service at Columbia University. When that program closed its doors, Terry took his book arts laboratory with him to the Virginia school. Students compete for limited space in what is fast becoming known as the best opportunity for continuing education in book related fields. Previously only a summer session, classes are now offered in January, March and May.

I attended *Introduction to Rare Book Librarianship*, taught by Daniel Traister. Dr. Traister serves as Curator at the Annenberg Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Pennsylvania, and has written extensively on Special Collections issues. My eleven classmates were primarily academic librarians and relatively new to the area of Special Collections. We also had the chance to meet with students participating in two other classes during coffee breaks and evening activities.

A tour of the University of Virginia's Special Collections, lectures and "Bookseller Night" in downtown Charlottesville were some of the enlightening and enjoyable extracurricular events.

Introduction to Rare Book Librarianship provided a broad yet thorough overview of what it is that Special Collections Librarians do. An extensive amount of material was examined during the eight-hour class periods, in addition to the preparatory readings recommended beforehand. Students received a comprehensive packet complete with a syllabus, bibliographies, reading lists and articles weeks before the session. We were encouraged to ask questions and generate discussion, which allowed us to share our own knowledge and experiences.

Dr. Traister outlined the primary responsibilities of the Rare Book Librarian, including such things as collections management, acquisitions, and exhibits. He emphasized the ways in which we deal with our collections that may be different from traditional library activities. Security, collection development, and outreach stand out as areas that Special Collections Librarians encounter on a different level than their counterparts working with the general collection.

More than Librarians, we are also:

Security Guards-- We were informed about unique and peculiar ways of stealing rare materials and how protecting our collections must be balanced with access.

Movers & Shakers--Developing relationships with book dealers, potential donors, and upper level management requires a certain combination of assertiveness, friendliness, and tact. The instructor had the added bonus of monitoring our behavior during coffee breaks and noticing how some of us obtained our daily bagel and beverage of choice, then scurried off to a corner to gobble it all down while avoiding eye contact. "We can be shy people in this profession," he says, "don't be."

Cheerleaders--Never one to join up for the squad, those perky skills would come in handy now that I have a cause to support. Outreach takes many forms these days, so savvy web know-how can go a long way to advance user awareness while keeping blushes hidden. Nevertheless, public speaking should not be avoided, as talks and tours may be the first contact others have with Special Collections. A friendly face

and welcoming tone can also help counteract intimidation and dispel the mysteries surrounding that "other library."

Rare Book School gave me a small taste of what a Library education should offer. An enthusiastic group of like-minded individuals with a variety of interests and backgrounds sharing a true passion for books and learning, eager to absorb new knowledge, preserve the written word, and create dynamic collections for the future.

Notes on Digitization for Cultural Heritage Professionals

held in Houston, Texas, March 5-10, 2000

Reported by Diane DeCesare Ross, Digitization Specialist, McCain Library and Archives, University of Southern Mississippi

Every summer, the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute (HATII) at the University of Glasgow in Scotland offers a one-week course in Digitization for Cultural Heritage Professionals. March 5-10, this course was held for the first time in the United States at Rice University in Houston, Texas. It was taught by HATII faculty (Dr. Seamus Ross, Dr. Maria Economou, and Ann Gow) and by Chuck Beardson from Rice University.

At the Sunday evening reception and course introduction, it became immediately obvious that the week would be jam-packed, beginning at 8:30 a.m. every morning, and finishing around 6:00 p.m. every evening. With the course limited to only twenty-five participants, my classmates had gathered from as far away as Alaska, California, and Massachusetts. They represented a wide variety of institutions: mostly academic libraries and archives, but also medical schools, corporate archives, a library school, and one public library.

Possibilities and Planning

We began our studies in earnest on Monday morning, with a lecture on "The Objectives and Possibilities of Digitization." Dr. Seamus Ross introduced us to the basic terminology of digitization and discussed various primary source materials and how digitization can be of use to the cultural heritage community. He pointed out that, contrary to popular thought, digitization is really more like translation than copying. He stressed that this process is not a substitute for good preservation practices, though material can be digitized for conservation reasons. Several good reasons to digitize were listed:

- Reduction of handling damage on originals

- Increase in speed and ease of information transfer, no matter what the distance

- Create usages not possible with the original materials (such as reconstructing collections that have been divided up)

- Add value and increase use by making it possible to enlarge parts of the material and make comparisons easier (particularly comparisons with items at other locations)

- Make more precise copies of the original

- Speed access and retrieval

The discussion then turned to four key elements in the digitization process: resolution, dynamic range (tonal differences), bit-depth, and reusability (i.e., scan once at high resolution, then create lower resolution digital surrogates as needed). Dr. Ross stressed that the ultimate use of the digital files should be considered before the digitization process begins, since the requirements of these four key elements will not necessarily be the same for all items.

He also pointed out that the ultimate quality of digitized materials depends on the choice of digitization technology appropriate to the source materials, the skill of the people using the equipment, the quality of the equipment used, environmental factors such as temperature and lighting, file formats, and the characteristics of the monitor display and printer. He cited TIFF RGB as the preservation format standard and recommended JPEG for delivery of images. When choosing appropriate digitization technology, several characteristics of the original materials should be considered:

What are the size dimensions?
What condition is the material in?
What type of material is it? (drawing, typescript, film, etc.)
What is the structure of the material? (Is it mounted or bound in some way?)
Is the material sensitive to light?
Is there any color in the material?
What is the tonal range of the material? (Continuous tone like a photo, or high contrast like a typical typescript?)

The second lecture concerned "Selecting Material for Digitization & the Digitization Chain." Dr. Ross introduced the SOUDAAM strategy (Source-Oriented User-Driven Asset-Aware Model) for materials selection. He stressed that institutions should view their collections as "intellectual capital" and that the choice to digitize should involve in-depth knowledge of the collection and the ultimate usage of these materials. The relationship between newly created digital materials and other digital resources at the local, regional, and national level should also be considered.

An integral part of SOUDAAM is a Digital Collection Development Plan. This begins with a survey of the institution's intellectual assets, considering an evaluation of user needs, any possible risk to the original materials, and any relevant rights management issues. Dr. Ross recommended that materials not be digitized if the institution does not own the intellectual property rights or have an easy way to secure these rights. Ideally, the Digital Collection Development Plan would prioritize digitization projects over a 10-year period.

It was stressed that people are an important resource in any digitization program; institutions should invest in the skills of their employees. Other important issues include an awareness of duplicate or complementary digitization efforts, quality control and evaluation, economic sustainability, project management, workflow, and control of the digitization process.

The Process of Digitization

After a closer look at major projects such as Bibliothèque de France, JSTOR, Vatican Library, Archive General de Indias, Internet Library of Early Journals, Images of England, and the Scottish Archives Network, Dr. Maria Economou spent Tuesday discussing "The Digitization of Textual Sources and Optical Character Recognition." Various ways of obtaining electronic text were discussed: keying in, scanning in with the use of OCR technology, or acquiring in electronic format from another source (such as the internet). Keying text in takes time and can be expensive, but it can also be very accurate. OCR technology can be cheaper and faster, but accuracy levels vary widely depending on the software used and the original source material. Stray marks on the page or text characters that are joined or fractured where they shouldn't be make it difficult for OCR programs to work properly. The most accurate OCR job still has at least one error every 1,000 characters (10-12 lines). With an error rate as low as 5%, it would still take less time to type the page accurately than to OCR the page and then correct the errors. Primary source materials (such as early printed books, manuscripts, and newspapers) are difficult to OCR because of stains, broken characters, ink bleed-through, etc. Even clear typescripts can be a problem if there are changes of language or typeface (as in the case of bibliographies). Some formatting can also be lost during the OCR process. Even after scanning and OCR, a lot of work may remain to ensure accurate electronic representation of the document's content. Since the OCR process can be very slow, it is more time-effective to scan the texts in a batch, and then batch-process OCR during non-working hours.

Dr. Ross gave the Wednesday's first lecture on "Digitization of Photographs, Manuscripts, Maps, and Slides." Digitizing these materials involves a clear understanding of their physical characteristics and informational value. Once the "smallest essential detail" is determined, successful digitization is benchmarked by the capture of that detail. Lighting, color management, and alignment can all be important variables that will affect quality of the final digital resource. (It was noted that all ambient light must be eliminated when using a digital camera on a copystand.) Several projects were discussed,

including the Library of Congress Manuscript Digitization Demonstration Project, El Archivo General de Indias, and the Beowulf project. It was noted that compression of digital files is necessary for very large materials. The MrSID (Multi-Resolution Seamless Image Database) product was recommended as very good for maps and worthy of consideration for other materials as well.

Dr. Ross stressed the importance of maintaining consistency in the digitization process. Policies and procedures should be put into place in order to ensure this. For example, the monitor and scanner should be calibrated. Targets (color, grayscale, and resolution test chart) should be scanned at the beginning of every scanning session and any time the system or environment is changed. These target scans should be saved for reference. The targets themselves should be regularly replaced, since they tend to fade with time.

It is also important to control the scanning environment. Dust, in particular, can lower the quality of scans. Carpets attract dust, and should be cleaned regularly, if not eliminated. Liberal use should be made of anti-static cloths for cleaning scanning equipment. Wearing a lab coat can help with reducing dust transferred to scans, while poorly-placed air conditioning vents can increase the dust problem.

The next lecture was entitled "Image Processing Strategies". As far as producing high quality digital masters goes, the goal seems to be to digitally represent the original object with as little image processing as possible. Any image processing needed for the digital master should be done in the scanning software, if at all possible. However, access images may often need some image processing, and this can be done after initial scanning. Image processing may be used to change orientation, change file formats, edit, resize, retouch/repair, or adjust color, contrast, and brightness. It must be done carefully in order to ensure that undesirable changes do not occur.

Metadata

Thursday's two lectures were taught by Chuck Bearden and focused on metadata, which was presented as the key to long-term management, retrieval, and use of digital collections. The lectures focused mainly on RLG Preservation Metadata and on Dublin Core bibliographic metadata. For each digitization project, decisions must be made as to how much and what information should be recorded, how this information will be stored, and how/if this information will be presented to the general user.

Bibliographic metadata describe and classify the digital resource, as well as aiding in retrieval. Preservation metadata include information on the administration of the digital resource, the production and capture process, digital file characteristics, storage information, and system documentation. *Administrative* information could include terms of access, means of access, rights information, usage guidelines, usage logs (such as a web server log), a history of any changes made to the digital resource, reasons for digitization, and information that can be used for authentication and verification of the resource. *Production/Capture* information should include the date and time of image capture, color depth, color calibration, resolution, equipment used, physical characteristics of the original, and any other equipment settings used. *Digital file characteristics* include the compression applied, the file format, and any encryption applied (including the passwords needed to unlock the file). *Storage* metadata include storage medium (magnetic tape, CD-ROM, etc.), file system (Macintosh, Unix, etc.), logical structure (file and directory names), and indications of file integrity. Metadata can be presented to the user in many ways: text, HTML, databases, etc.

Technology and Resource Delivery

Dr. Economou began Friday with a lecture on "Advanced Retrieval Technologies & Watermarking, Encryption, and Wrappers". She pointed out the close relationship between indexing and information retrieval. This is currently done with mainly textual sources, but several people are working on ways of indexing non-textual sources (for example, QBIC – Query by Image Content). Unfortunately, these content-based retrieval systems are not yet practical; it is still best for non-textual sources to be manually tagged with keywords by trained personnel.

The second part of Dr. Economou's lecture was devoted to digital watermarking and other ways of attempting to protect the rights involved in digital resources. There are many ways to incorporate a *digital watermark* into an image, but none of them are foolproof. These watermarks may be relatively easy to remove, but at least they can help make claims of ownership easier in case of unacceptable use.

Encryption encodes an image so it cannot be viewed without decryption using a special key. This works well for transmission and storage, but once a file has been decrypted, it can be easily transmitted in its unencrypted form. *Wrappers* put digital files into a secure container that requires another piece of software or extension to the operating system for access (i.e., IBM's Cryptolopes, InterTrust's Digiboxes, NetRights' Licenselt).

The last lecture of the week dealt with "Technical Issues & Resources Delivery Options." Dr. Ross outlined the different types of scanning devices, how they worked, and the appropriate uses for them. He emphasized that even though manufacturers may stress interpolated resolution, it is only optical resolution that matters for digitization projects. Negatives were singled out as being particularly difficult to digitize because each type of film presents color a little differently, and this color is geared toward print and not human eye perception. It was noted that the software that comes with the scanner could make a big difference in quality; scanner software that allows increased control over the scanning process is preferred.

As far as computers go, the PC used for digitization should be as fast as possible, with as much memory as possible. The monitor should be at least 17" (21" if possible) with a dot pitch .26mm or smaller. The display should be at least 256 colors, 24-bit color. Recommended file storage included internal hard disks, removable magnetic drives, optical drives (such as re-writable CD-ROM drives), and DAT tape drives. However, it was noted that CD-R is not an archival medium, because the dye layer is organic. Digital Linear Tapes (DLT) were given the highest recommendation, with the caution that DAT and DLT tapes absorb water, so physical storage should be around 50°F and 30-40% RH.

In the case of internal hard drives, SCSI devices allow much faster file transmission than IDE devices. RAID-5 file storage was recommended because it allows remaining drives to reconstruct information lost on one bad drive. However, it was also noted that a failure on one drive usually occurs at the same time as failures on other drives, probably because they were next to each other on the production line and therefore have the same flaws.

Dr. Ross stressed that digital storage media decay. They can be affected by temperature, humidity, disaster, and manufacturer defects. Because of this, ways to validate the integrity and authenticity of the resource should be built in. Metadata should be included to provide context for the resource, and legal issues should be considered. However, the biggest problem in preserving digital resources is that the hardware and software used to create and access them becomes obsolete. Therefore, plans for data migration should be a part of any digitization program.

Final Comments

All in all, I would have to say that this was a very positive experience. Some of my classmates had been to other digitization training programs, and they indicated that *Digitization for Cultural Heritage Professionals* was a more rewarding experience. Most commented that the other programs were geared toward a much more technical audience.

This was also a "hands-on" program. We visited the Woodson Research Center at Fondren Library (Rice University) and the Houston Metropolitan Research Center of the Houston Public Library. In both cases, the librarian gave an introduction to the collection, and then we were allowed to examine a variety of materials more closely. We were asked to examine these materials with an eye towards how they could be digitized and whether or not they should be digitized.

In addition, we participated in "practicals" each afternoon. We OCR'd several types of text using Caere's OmniPage Pro and Xerox's Textbridge and then compared the results. We used an Epson Scanner and Adobe Photoshop software to digitize various non-textual materials, scanning materials at different resolutions in order to compare them. We also used the Photoshop software to change the tone curve, adjust the tonal range, crop images, adjust skew, and adjust lightness, exposure, and saturation. In addition, we practiced constructing metadata using Photoshop, NotePad, and Microsoft Access software. Every day after the "practical," we divided into groups of four or five to prepare for the next day's seminar. We discussed assigned topics of project management, standards and information quality, rights management, grant funding, and project evaluation. Each day, we chose a different spokesperson to present our discussion points to the whole class.

This course was an intense week-long experience, covering a great wealth of information in a

relatively short time. In spite of the time constraints, the material was presented well and clearly, without being overly technical. As a course participant, I not only gained in knowledge, I made contacts with others across the country who are (or will be) attempting similar projects. In addition, we were provided with three large notebooks full of resource materials, and the opportunity to continue sharing resources and discussion with class members and instructors through the course Listerv.

SOUTHERN ARCHIVISTS' CONFERENCE, Memphis, April 13-15, 2000

Two preconference workshops were offered on April 13. Ms Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, a licensed attorney as well as an archivist, presented both sessions.

COPYRIGHT ISSUES FOR ARCHIVISTS

The morning workshop began with background information on copyright. Behrnd-Klodt started from the basic premise that the intent of copyright protection was to balance the rights of the creator with the need to encourage innovation by sharing existing works. The introduction continued with a brief legal history, which traced copyright from its roots in 15th century England through to the early 1909 law, the 1976 Act, and current statutory protection.

The bulk of the workshop consisted of an interpretation of current copyright law. The aim was for a working understanding of the law and how it applies to the archival field. Behrnd-Klodt covered the types of works that can be copyrighted and the duration of copyright terms. Throughout she stressed the changes from the 1976 act. She then focused on the two sections of the copyright law that have the most effect on archivists: Section 107, "Fair Use" and Section 108, "Reproduction and Distribution by Libraries and Archives." Both sections were explored in detail, the underlying point being that there are no unequivocal rules which govern use and reproduction, but that each instance must be viewed on a case by case basis.

The final portion of the workshop dealt with how to handle copyright infringement. Behrnd-Klodt first discussed what was needed to prove a copyright infringement claim and how the courts may judge a case. She then covered possible defense tactics and legal remedies. Not surprisingly this topic prompted many questions. The morning workshop concluded with some general comments about the impact of technological changes and how archivists can adjust to meet the new challenges.

Throughout the copyright session Behrnd-Klodt illustrated all her points with examples from her work as legal counsel for a publishing company and her experience as an archivist. She also encouraged questions and group discussion. A handout was provided that covered the main points as well as a resources sheet which listed both printed and online information.

PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIALITY, AND ACCESS ISSUES FOR ARCHIVISTS

The afternoon workshop began with background information on the concepts of privacy and confidentiality. Behrnd-Klodt discussed the competing interests in the privacy access equation and the different tiers of regulations. Next she gave an overview of the development of the modern American understanding of legal privacy rights. She started with the concept's constitutional roots and the seminal 1890 Harvard Law Review article by Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis. From this first articulation of the "right of the individual to be let alone," Behrnd-Klodt tracked both the intellectual and legal expansion of the concept of personal liberty.

Having set the legal and conceptual groundwork, the session focused on recent Supreme Court cases and federal privacy laws. The current federal privacy laws were explained with an emphasis on how these laws might apply to archival records. Next Behrnd-Klodt briefly considered the impact of professional ethics. She highlighted the SAA's Code of Ethics for Archivists, the joint ALA-SAA Statement, and ARMA's Code of Professional Responsibility.

For the final part of her afternoon presentation Behrnd-Klodt totally opened up the meeting to discussion with an exercise. She provided the group with a hypothetical worse case scenario in which a

fictitious archives has to deal with some privacy-sensitive records. The situation presented was horrendous, with every imaginable privacy problem. A lively and jovial debate ensued. Most interesting were the disagreements on how to handle the different issues. While agreement was generally reached in most instances, participants held very divergent viewpoints



SAC SESSION REPORTS (It was not possible to report on all sessions.)

SESSION I DOCUMENTING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

CIVIL RIGHTS COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

USM Archivist Bobs Tusa spoke to the Southern Archivists' Conference meeting in Memphis on April 14 about the Civil Rights collections in the USM Archives. She began her talk by noting that the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was celebrating that same week-end their 40th anniversary reunion at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. It was SNCC's 1964 Summer Project in Mississippi – known as 'Freedom Summer' – which has been one focus of the USM Archives' collecting efforts over the last three years.

Bobs spoke about Freedom Summer, which brought some 1,000 volunteers into the state to help black Mississippians achieve full voting rights, and the types of materials which have been contributed to the USM Archives by former volunteers and by local African American activists. She referred the audience to the USM Archives' website at www.lib.usm.edu/~archives for a list of all of the repository's Civil Rights collections and the online finding aids of those which have been fully processed. All of the collections listed on the website are open to researchers.

She then talked in some detail about one of those collections, the Herbert Randall Freedom Summer Photographs Collection, which comprises almost 2,000 negatives and over 800 prints of photographs taken in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, the largest of the forty-four Freedom Summer sites in the state.

Herbert Randall was a young man of color, a photographer from New York City who was the recipient of a John Hay Whitney Foundation fellowship for creative photography. Randall was persuaded by Sandy Leigh, the SNCC Field Secretary in charge of the Hattiesburg project, to document the activities of Freedom Summer – SNCC training sessions at Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio in late June 1964 and then the work of the volunteers and local leaders during July and August in Hattiesburg and the nearby historically black community of Palmer's Crossing.

Randall's photographs are works of art which place the viewer in the scenes he documents: the segregationists' violence that formed the background of Freedom Summer, voter registration canvassing, Freedom Schools, community centers, street scenes in the black community, caucuses of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in the black churches, and performances by folksingers like Pete Seeger and by the touring repertory company the Free Southern Theater. Historian Dr. John Dittmer, author of *Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*, considers Herbert Randall's photographs to be the most complete photographic documentation of a single Civil Rights site that he has seen.

An exhibit of 102 of Herbert Randall's photographs entitled *Faces of Freedom Summer* opened at the USM Museum of Art on June 7, 1999 as part of a four-day celebration of the 35th anniversary of Freedom Summer. Institutions interested in hosting the exhibit should contact Bobs at (601) 266-4348 or Bobs.Tusa@usm.edu

INSPIRED BY THE PAST, A VISION FOR THE FUTURE: THE HOLDINGS OF THE BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE

Wayne Coleman, head of the Archives Division of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, described the holdings of the Institute.

CIVIL RIGHTS LEGACY: SELECTED HOLDINGS FROM THE AMISTAD RESEARCH CENTER

Rebecca Hankins, archivist at the Center, listed the civil rights collections from the Amistad Research Center and briefly described each. The collection consists of papers from civil rights activists such as Inez Adams, Ronnie Moore who was NAACP leader of Bogalusa, LA, Preston and Bonita Valien papers relating to the Montgomery Bus Boycott and Joseph Madison. Collection also contains papers from civil rights attorneys Armand Derfner, who was involved in the desegregation of four colleges, and Alexander Tureaud. New Orleans mayors Ernest Morial, first African American mayor in New Orleans, and William Jefferson's campaign materials. The largest collection is from the sociologist Hyman Lewis. His collection consists of photographs and reviews of government offices.

The Race Relations Institute, Urban League of New Orleans, American Missionary Association, NAACP and the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing are a few of the organizations collected at the Center. Microform collection consists of Core MS, Alexander Defense Committee and Southern Civil Rights Litigation Records.

You may contact the center at arc@tcs.tulane.edu. (504) 865-5535 Amistad Research Center, Tilton Hall—Tulane University, 6823 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

MEMPHIS CIVIL RIGHTS SOURCES: A REVISIONIST NOTE

Wayne Dowdy from the Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and Information Center spoke about manuscript collections from the Memphis Public Library. Dowdy's main focus was on former mayors supporting African Americans to vote. Their support was driven from the success from one Memphis Mayor Edward Hull Crump, 1910-1916. Crump went against white supremacy to gain the trust and support from the African American community. Many white organizations considered him to be enemy number one even after the election. He continued supporting the African American community by directing the building of new parks, schools and other facilities for them. His assistance led to the creation of W. C. Handy Park. The community was eventually comfortable enough to petition to the mayor's office for new housing property. After Crump's administration voter registration continued to increase benefitting both races. This collection consists of correspondence with the mayor's office and the black community. Other civil rights collections consist of sit-ins and civil rights law suits during the non-violent period of the Civil Rights Movement.

You may contact the center at 725-8895, 1850 Peabody Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104

THE COLLECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

Doris Dixon from the National Civil Rights Museum substituted for Barbara Andrews. The National Civil Rights Museum opened in 1991 and displays key events of the Civil Rights Movement from the 1950's and 1960's. None of the items are solicited all of them are donated to the museum, but they are currently revising their collecting policy to allow them to go out and collect. Manuscript collections consist of poll tax receipts, press conference programs for SCLC meetings and those attending, NAACP membership campaign materials and documents relating to the life and assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. Future goals for the museum include a wide range of geographic areas. The museum will focus on specific areas by state when they begin collecting. Other goals include staff for study of Dr. Martin Luther King's life and death in order to have an archives to document the civil rights movement.

You may contact the center at (901) 521-9699, 450 Mulberry Street, Memphis, TN 38103-4214. The Museum is located in the Lorraine Motel.

SESSION II BUILDING OR RENOVATING ARCHIVES: THE CHANGES WE MADE

STAFF REORGANIZATION AND CHANGES IN PROCEDURES NECESSITATED BY THE DESIGN OF A NEW BUILDING

Hank Holmes, Archives and Library Division Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, began his presentation by asking the audience a question: how many had gone through a significant organizational change, or had designed a new building? Holmes then explained that his division of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History was doing both. After twenty-six years of one system of staff organization, changes had been made in the organization of division programs two years ago when the process of designing a new building made it clear that such organizational changes were necessary to meet technological ones.

Holmes proceeded to describe the building design first. Through slides, he presented the architectural rendering of the 140,575 square-foot building and plans for several floors. Pointing out that the opportunity of a new building was a challenging one since no one had an idea how fast the technology of record-keeping will change, Holmes then described the ways in which the design of that building will help meet that challenge. The first two floors, built into the hillside, will provide 100,000 cubic feet of stack storage, with space for receiving collections on the first floor, along with a server farm for electronic data.

The design of the third floor, the public floor on street level, had necessitated decisions on procedural changes. The traditional large reading room with stacks closed to researchers had been rejected. The recent popularity of genealogy and archives, and an influx of new users who were unaccustomed to restrictions had created a desire to design a reading room more like a public library. This decision, said Holmes, had been further influenced by the fact that the archives' holdings were of a diverse nature, including 68,000 volumes of Mississippiana, film, photographs, official records, and manuscripts, and by the fact that 78 % of the users of the archives were genealogists. So design decisions had been made that split the traditional large reading room into three parts. First, there will be a public reading room providing space for 25,000 volumes of genealogy-related materials that can be browsed by researchers at will. These materials will be non-Mississippi ones. An archival reading room will give access to the Mississippi books and the manuscript and state archival materials; this room will be an inner sanctum requiring the researchers to pass a high security area. In addition, there will be a microfilm reading room, which will also serve as an access point for computer and motion picture material. The microfilm room will make 40,000 rolls of microfilm accessible to the public on a self-serve basis; a decision that had been reached after an examination of the procedures of other archives had shown it was feasible. The entire research room area will be served by one common reference desk which could be run by two people if staff reduction so required, but normally would be staffed by five or six people. The design of the public floor, concluded Holmes, was a big change, allowing people access to materials they had not had before.

It was in discussing the design of the fourth floor of the new archives building that Holmes explained the reorganization of the staff. The Archives and Library Division is now divided into the sections of Paper Archives, handling both state records and private manuscripts; Image and Sound, dealing with audio and visual resources; Published Information; and Electronic Records. The last section, Holmes explained, was the direct result of an NHPRC grant, and had four staff members, with the possibility of a fifth. Holmes also emphasized the ability of the new building design to cope with the problem of the unpredictability of record-keeping technology; if needed, walls could be shifted at the expense of an existing section to give another the workspace required.

Holmes then drew the audience's attention to the existence of a "privacy office" on the fourth floor for the new staff position of privacy and confidentiality officer. This staff member will review materials for privacy considerations. Holmes said this position was an indirect result of issues raised in the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission case; since there was no privacy position in state law, it has become necessary to review collections based on federal and case law. The increased workspace available in the new building will permit such a review process to take place.

In conclusion, Holmes stated that while in the past the Mississippi Archives and Library Division had looked at records by their creation, now it was examining questions of work flow and the format of

records instead, and that the new staff organization would allow the development of expertise on record formats. The new building had been laid out with change in mind, and the organizational changes had been made on the basis of the building design. Holmes admitted there might be a question of whether the cart had been placed before the horse in making these changes, and finished by pointing out the current area of emphasis for the staff: on the two-year process of getting ready to move into the new building.

In response to questions, it was noted that the fifth floor of the new building will house the administrative offices for the whole department, and that the current building will be remodeled for artifact storage space and exhibit design for the Old Capitol Museum of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

REACTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS FOLLOWING THE RENOVATION OF A BUILDING

Dr. Alfred Lemmon from the Historic New Orleans Collection gave an account of the relocation of the repository's holdings and the research room to the former Police Precinct building on Royal Street. Dr. Lemmon detailed some of the problems encountered in the restoration of that building and showed "before" and "after" pictures. He also had some good advice on packing and moving an archival collection.

SESSION III RECORDS OF THE SOUTHERN CLAIMS COMMISSION was canceled

SESSION IV ELECTRONIC FINDING AIDS AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Patricia Threatt, Head of Special Collections in LSU's Hill Special Collections Library, started her program with a review of the Library's holdings. She reported some 10 million items in manuscript holdings and 6,000+ linear feet of University Archives. She also gave out figures of 200,000+ photographs and some 2,500 hours of oral history interviews. Other holdings referred to included rare books and visual images related to sugar industry history in Louisiana. She offered some examples of digitized images regarding the sugar industry holdings. Threatt said that digital images represent a "small but growing" aspect of electronic finding aids at LSU.

As for manuscript holdings, some 25-30% of LSU's holdings are available for searching on-line through LOLA, the LSU on-line system. HTML descriptions are available via the Excite search engine. LSU is switching from EADS Beta to EADS 1.0 (SGML). Each collection title on-line is keyed as HTML or HTML/SGML. The implication from Threatt is that while there is much yet to be done, the LSU staff is making considerable progress.

LSU is also focusing on subject guides and adding links such as a question link and outside links to such sites as Archives USA. Threatt also pointed out that the United States Civil War Center, located on the LSU campus, is now under the auspices of the library, and at present is little more than a web site.

Threatt concluded by encouraging archivists to examine the LSU web site and offer comments and suggestions. A brief question and answer period followed. Some 25 people attended the session.

SESSION V BUILDING LOCAL RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND ARCHIVES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL IN TENNESSEE: IMPLEMENTING THE NEW CTAS GUIDELINES

Bill Moss and Dr. Wayne Moore from the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) described that state's efforts to institute a records management program for the counties. The County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS) in 1999 published a reference guide for county officials with guidelines and retention schedules. TSLA is also actively encouraging county governments to set up local archives programs. The excellent handout included an action guide for public records commissions and a list of basic archival principles for county officials.

SESSION VI MAKING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL KID FRIENDLY

PRIMARILY SPEAKING: PRESENTING PRIMARY SOURCES TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND UNDERGRADUATES

Tara Zachary of Delta State University began by noting the differences in the size, staff, and resources at the presenters' respective institutions. She commented that she hoped her presentation would show those with limited resources in those areas what could be done to bring primary sources into a classroom. She discussed a packet and presentation she had put together for a weekend-long, intensive course on the Battle of Shiloh offered at Delta State. The lesson included an introduction to the concept of primary sources and compared primary to secondary sources by illustrating the use by one historian of the Walter Sillers, Jr. Papers, a DSU collection, in his book. The core of the exercise centered on a discharge of an African-American Civil War soldier who had probably been a slave in or around Bolivar County, and a letter from a Confederate soldier. Providing biographical information for the two men and historical context, she invited the students to examine the photocopies of the documents and to answer general questions about the documents, which are available at the National Archives web site at www.nara.gov/education/teaching/analysis/write.html.

Zachary also posed questions more specific to the document and subject matter. The hand-out she provided archivists attending the session included photocopies of the documents, the document analysis sheet, and biographical information about soldiers.

BRINGING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL INTO THE CLASSROOM

Mark Palmer of the Alabama Department of Archives spoke about the primary source activities for the classroom available at the Alabama Department of Archives and History's website, www.archives.state.al.us. The site offers historical context information, learning objectives, suggested activities, and scanned documents on the Creek War (1813-1814), Settlement of Alabama, Slavery, Civil War, Reconstruction, the 1901 Constitution, World War I, the Depression and the New Deal, World War II, and the Civil Rights Movement. The resources are the result of a project conducted by ADAH and Alabama educators. Palmer explained how this collaboration fostered an eagerness to use and an appreciation for the new material by the teachers, as well as a workable product for the educators in the classroom.

The Alabama presentation led to a discussion of the issue of copyright in scanning and making some materials available on line, especially newspaper clippings. Attendees suggested getting permission from publishers and donors and writing digital use permission into donor agreements. Others argued that the educational nature made the use of the document's allowable under fair use. The presentations gave the archivists who attended examples of what can be done with varying degrees of staff, resources, and time to devote to outreach to the classroom. They gave a place to start and something to shoot for in making the rich collections in our repositories available and useful to educators.

SESSION VI Archives in China

Bill Moss, Tennessee State Archives and Library, gave fascinating lecture about the Chinese system of archives. Between 1982 and 1992, he visited China four times and then spent four years in the country, teaching English at the Foreign Affairs College. He explained the structure of modern Chinese archives, which began in 1911. The well-developed system consists of four divisions and is divided according to historical periods. The function of archives is government service, a researcher is not automatically welcomed, he has to justify his needs. Free access to archival materials is not encouraged. Microfilming and conservation treatments are undertaken regularly and archival training is available nationwide. The last part of the lecture was devoted to the ancient Chinese archives, beginning with oracle bones, on which omens were recorded. Bronze bells with inscriptions, jade xylophones and vessels engraved to commemorate special events as well as stone stelae recording treaties served archival functions. Bamboo

strips were used as writing material and then sewn together, but by the time of the Han dynasty paper became the preferred medium and has remained so.

SESSION VII MEMPHIS: BLUES AND JAZZ

Dr. Laura Helper's research deals with the urban context of Memphis music. She used archival resources to document the creation of segregated neighborhoods by the white power structure under the guise of urban renewal. The records of the urban renewal efforts in archival depositories are very detailed, with pictures, names of home owners and so on. The destruction of established, racially mixed neighborhoods for "economic development" can be documented in depth.

W. C. HANDY: "FATHER OF THE BLUES"

Elaine Turner, curator of the W.C. Handy Home, described life and times of W.C. Handy. She also played tapes of interviews and oral histories with the "Father of the Blues", who wrote the first documented Blues song, the "Memphis Blues". It was a treat to hear Handy sing another of his own compositions, the "Beale Street Blues".

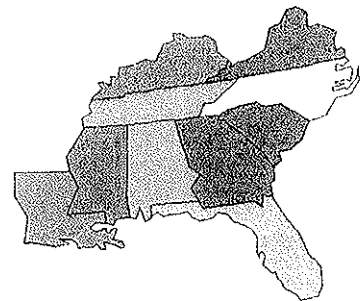
AN OVERVIEW AND EXAMPLES (PERFORMANCE) OF MEMPHIS MUSIC SINCE W.C. HANDY

Remember that scene in "The Jerk" when Steve Martin tries to dance with his black family? Well, when jazz musician Alfred Rudd tried to teach us conference-goers a thing or two about the blues, I became that character. Mr. Rudd had us clapping happily along for all of 10 seconds before we were cut off--black music emphasizes the two and four, it seems, not the one and three. For all I do not know about music, I thought I could at least *clap*. I eventually got the hang of it and enjoyed listening to and learning about the blues. Some lucky participants were handed instruments (tambourines, some hollow stick things and maracas) and were probably thinking "2 and 4, 2 and 4, 2 and 4", knowing that we could hear their beat above the clapping.

Before too long we were doing call-backs like "ev-er-y day" and "all night long", having a grand old time. Between songs, we also learned about the history of the genre and how the term "blues" derived from "blue notes" used by black musicians. Educational *and* entertaining, this session closed out the conference on a high note (sorry) and brought everyone to their feet in a standing ovation.

Preservin' the South

Preservation News by Christine Wiseman
Education Officer,
SOLINET Preservation Field Services



An Online Tool for Identification of Videotape Formats

Video came into wide use as a recording technology during the mid-1950s. Since this time over 50 different formats were developed, many of which end up in library and archival collections. The Electronic Media Group of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) has a website to aid librarians and archivists in identification of videotape formats. The site includes images and descriptions of nearly all video formats as well as an obsolescence rating for each according to the viability

of the format and its playback equipment. The URL is:
<<http://aic.stanford.edu/conspec/emg/>>, click on "Identification of Video".

3rd Edition of NEDCC's "Preservation Manual" Published

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) announced the publication of the third edition of "Preservation and of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual" in hardcover. The revised and expanded edition, edited by Sherelyn Odgen, has been available on NEDCC's website <www.nedcc.org> for about a year, and is now available in printed form. Cost is \$50 which includes shipping and handling. Send payment or purchase order to: NEDCC, c/o FPMSI, 220 Neck Rd., Haverhill, MA 01835.

Disaster Response Flip Chart

A flip chart listing immediate response procedures is an essential component of any library, archival, or museum disaster plan. Intended to be a quick reference, flip charts can be posted at accessible locations around the building. The Southeast Museums Conference (SEMC) Professional Development Committee has developed a "Disaster Response Flip Chart" as a model for outlining actions to be taken by an institution's staff during the first few minutes after an incident or emergency. Based on a chart developed by the Upper Midwest Conservation Association, the flip chart can be edited to be institution specific. Available in both Microsoft Word and WordPerfect versions, the flipchart kit also includes colored paper for printing. Cost is \$30 for SEMC members, \$25 non-members. For ordering information contact the SEMC Office, PO Box 3494, Baton Rouge, LA, 70821-3494, (225)-383-5042.

2000 Hurricane Predicted to be Active

Hurricane season begins June 1st and runs to November 30. It is time again to update, or develop in some cases, your institution's disaster plan. Most hurricanes are formed in August and September; however, experts predict that this season will see hurricane formation earlier than usual. Now is the time to inventory and replenish disaster supplies, update emergency phone lists, review recovery procedures, trim trees and remove loose debris around the perimeter of your building, and verify contact information for outside disaster recovery services.

Experts predict that the 2000 Atlantic hurricane season is likely to be more active than the long term average (100 years), yet slightly less active than the past four years. Storm predictions include 11 named storms (average is 9.3), 7 hurricanes (average is 5.7) and 3 intense hurricanes (average is 2.2), defined as Saffir-Simpson category 3, 4 or 5 with winds above 110 mph. According to landfall predictions, the entire U.S. coastline has a 60% chance of a major hurricane (category 3-4-5) making landfall. The U.S. east coast, including Florida, has a 39% chance, the Gulf Coast, from the FL panhandle to Brownsville, TX has a 34% chance, and the Caribbean basin a 10% chance. All of these predictions are well above the 100-year average.

The Southeast has experienced significant storm damage in the past two years. Four of 1998's 10 hurricanes impacted the Southeast: Earl, Bonnie, Georges, and Mitch. Georges was ranked by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as the costliest hurricane to date, causing \$2.5 billion in damage. In 1999 there were 8 Atlantic hurricanes; Floyd, which caused severe flooding in North Carolina, was the 4th costliest hurricane.

The safety of an institution's staff and patrons is of paramount importance before, during, and after a disaster. Build ample time into your disaster plan for staff to prepare the building and collections, keeping in mind that they will need time to protect personal property and possessions in the event of an evacuation. Preparedness is core to FEMA's Project Impact, which focuses on building disaster resistant communities through promoting awareness and forming public-private partnerships. The purpose of this project is to create communities that can recover quickly after a disaster, and through preparedness to reduce loss of life and property. Contact FEMA (www.fema.gov) to find out whether your institution is located in a designated Project Impact community or to learn about how your community can participate.

Preparation and preparedness are the keys to survival and protection of library and archival collections in the event of a hurricane. Although damage can not be entirely prevented, it can be mitigated by

preparedness. The potential for damage to library and archival collections is directly related to the construction of the building housing the collections. A structural engineer or architect can advise on building improvements such as roof bracing or installation of hurricane shutters to make a building more resistant to storm damage.

Since hurricanes usually approach with several days warning, an institution can stage its preparedness activities according to the level of warning. For example, when a hurricane watch is announced you have approximately 36 hours notice. At this time begin to brief employees, contact outside contractors and local freezer services, and identify shelters. When the announcement is elevated to a warning (hurricane is possible within 24 hours), the more labor-intensive precautions should be undertaken such as installing shutters, removing loose objects from building grounds, and covering and moving collections.

These measures of protection will be impossible to implement in such a short period of time without advance planning. For more detailed information about what to do before, during, and after a storm see the excerpt from Mike Trinkley's Hurricane! Surviving the Big One on the SOLINET website <www.solinet.net/presvtn/disaster/disastsv.htm>.

In order to facilitate preparations the following websites may be of assistance:
Colorado State University, Department of Atmospheric Science <typhoon.atmos.colostate.edu>
Federal Emergency Management Agency <www.fema.gov>
National Hurricane Center <www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
National Task Force on Emergency Response <www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/taskfer.htm>
SOLINET Preservation Services <www.solinet.net/presvtn/disaster/disastsv.htm>
Weather Underground <www.wunderground.com:80/tropical/>

SOLINET Preservation Services receives \$1.4 million in grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

SOLINET has received \$555,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to support the continuation of its regional Field Services program. The 24-month grant began May 1, 2000. With this new grant, Preservation Services will provide educational programs, information and referral, publications, and consultations for the libraries and archives in the Southeast to improve the ability of institutions to preserve and provide access to their informational resources.

\$869,226 was awarded to SOLINET from NEH to fund a fifth cooperative preservation microfilming project beginning in July 2000. The two-year project will preserve 7,300 deteriorated volumes from 11 libraries documenting the history and culture of the American South.

A Death

Paul N. Banks, pioneer in the field of library and archives conservation, died on May 10, 2000. Paul was a founding member of the American Institute for Conservation, Treasurer 1977-79, President 1979-81, and an Honorary Member.

Paul began his career in the late 1950s as a book designer in New York City. He worked with Carolyn Horton, taught bookbinding in New York, and in 1964 was invited to become Head of Conservation at the Newberry Library in Chicago, one of the first designations of such a position in the United States. At the Newberry he developed a library-wide conservation program and began his technical study of library storage conditions and environmental control. Paul was a member of the team that responded after the Florence flood and this experience helped to shape his ideas about the collections approach to book conservation.

In the early 1970s, Paul began his long effort to establish a training program for library conservators and preservation librarians. In 1981, with the help of the National Endowment for the Humanities, he became the first Director of the Library and Archives Conservation Education Programs at the School of Library Service, Columbia University. This program continues today at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin. This is perhaps his greatest legacy to the future and the achievement of which he was the most proud. The momentum of forces he set in

motion has changed library culture and his hundreds of students, active in the preservation fields, will continue to construct his vision.

Until his death, Paul was active with assignments as consultant to the Library of Congress and Advisor to the National Archives and Records Administration, notably in the specification for storage and display of the Declaration of Independence, the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Paul was appointed the first National Archives Fellow in Preservation in 1998. Paul was a very persuasive teacher, adamant campaigner for the role of preservation in culture and an irresistible companion. At his request, no funeral will be held, but there will be small, local gatherings to honor him. Those who wish to do so may make donations to the Paul N. Banks Endowed Graduate Fellowship at the University of Texas at Austin.
(Reprinted from the Conservation DistList Instance: 13:58, Friday, May 19, 2000)

New Publication on Copying Processes

Before Photocopying: The Art and History of Mechanical Copying 1780-1938 by Barbara Rhodes and William Streeter is an exhaustive history of mechanical copying processes from the industrial revolution to the founding of the Xerox Corporation. Although the focus is on letterpress copying machines and techniques, there is a great deal of information on other types of copying techniques. The book is extensively illustrated and divided into two sections: "Materials and Methods" and "History of the Letter Copying Press." There is a chapter focusing on the preservation of letterpress copying materials which discusses the nature of the paper, bindings, and inks used, as well as storage recommendations. The book may be ordered from Oak Knoll Books, 310 Delaware St, New Castle, DE, 19720, 302-328-7232 for \$75.

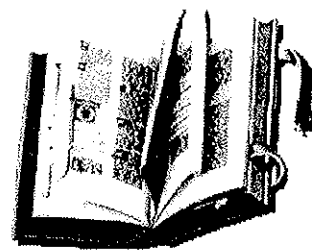
New Environmental Tool: Preservation Calculator

The Preservation Calculator is a free software program that rates an institution's environmental storage conditions, determines the rate of the deterioration of organic materials, and predicts the likelihood of a mold outbreak. The Calculator was developed by the Image Permanence Institute (IPI) at Rochester Institute of Technology with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mellon Foundation. The program runs on Windows 95, 98, NT, or 2000 and can be downloaded for free from www.rit.edu/~661www1/sub_pages/frameset2.html. It will not run on a Macintosh. The calculator measures the effect of storage conditions on the rate of natural aging of collections using the Preservation Index, which was also developed by IPI. The Preservation Index predicts the life expectancy of an item as compared to the lifespan of a "preservation problem object," such as acidic paper, stored at room temperature. The calculator does not consider other environmental factors such as light levels or air quality. Using the mouse or arrow keys move the sliders on the temperature and relative humidity scales to the desired level. Then the calculator predicts the Preservation Index (in years), days to mold germination, and evaluates the natural aging rate. The help function explains the rationale behind the tool and includes instructions for use and a list of related resources. The calculator is meant to be a planning and analysis tool that supplements existing environmental monitoring.



Accessions

1999-2000



Mississippi Department of Archives and History Manuscript Collection

CHICKASAW CESSION LAND OFFICE BOOKS. 1836-1844. 0. 93 c.f.

Created by Federal Land Office personnel, these books record township, range, and section information for the territory of the Chickasaw Cession in Mississippi. Of particular interest is the use of Chickasaw place names on the maps. Purchased from T. J. Raney, Little Rock, Arkansas.

CITIZENS' COUNCIL (MISSISSIPPI) COLLECTION. ca. 1954-1956. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of correspondence, a photocopy of a telegram, an annual report, pamphlets, an application form, and an unsigned set of notes concerning the activities of the Citizens' Council associations of different cities in Mississippi, including Jackson and Greenwood. Among the topics addressed by the pamphlets are segregation, the United States Supreme Court, the NAACP, and the Educational Fund of the Citizens' Council. Transferred from the library of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

CLARK FAMILY BUSINESS RECORDS. ca. 1889-1933. 2.55 c.f.

This collection consists of the records of companies associated with the family of John Clark of Clarksdale, Coahoma County, Mississippi. The records include cash and account books, a cotton gin book, a ledger, and records relating to the Clark Herrin Company and the Ashton Land Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi. Presented by Charles W. Clark, Clarksdale, Mississippi.

DANIEL (STEPHEN D.) PAPERS. 1862-1864. 0.10 c.f.

The papers of Stephen D. Daniel consist of two items of correspondence written during his military service in the Civil War. The first is a letter from his father, E. P. Daniel, to which is appended a letter from his sister, Emily. Both are addressed from Mount Pleasant, Newton County, Mississippi. The second item consists of two letters from Stephen D. Daniel to his sister. The letters convey family as well as military news. Presented by Edgar A. Sansing, Hobe Sound, Florida.

GENERAL STORE (POCAHONTAS, MISS.) JOURNAL. 1929-1932. 0.93 c.f.

This collection consists of a daily journal recording customers' names, and the prices and quantities of goods purchased at the old general store in Pocahontas, Hinds County, Mississippi. Presented by Joseph Giansanti, Madison, Mississippi.

GOODEN (JAMES) PAPERS. ca. 1919-1935. 0.65 c.f.

The papers of James Gooden of Jackson, Mississippi, include correspondence, photographs, financial records, social papers, publications and printed material. The collection documents his career in education, and includes material relating to his service as a teacher at The Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute in Prentiss, Mississippi, and as a teacher and principal at Lanier High School in Jackson. Presented by Michael Hennen, Jackson, Mississippi.

GRIFFIN (THOMAS) JOURNAL. ca. 1834-1850. 0.17 c.f.

Contained in this journal are memoirs, daily entries, and accounts of Thomas Griffin. They document his activities as a Methodist circuit rider and farmer in Mississippi in the early nineteenth century. The journal contains information on Madison, Hinds, and Copiah Counties, as well as on Natchez and the Port Gibson area. Griffin used the journal to record not only business affairs, but his spiritual development and views on issues of the day. Presented by Will Mary Pratt, Monteagle, Tennessee.

HARRISON (PATRICK) PAPERS. ca. 1986-1989. 0.17 c.f. The papers of Patrick Harrison of Canton, Mississippi, consist of correspondence, photographs, lists, and original and photocopied research materials documenting his efforts to identify the Confederate soldiers buried in the Canton cemetery, and to obtain markers for their graves. This project formed the basis of Harrison's book *Confederate Dead At Canton, Mississippi*. Transferred from Official Records, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

KEYES (STEPHEN P.) DIARY. 1863-1867. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of a photocopy of the diary of Stephen P. Keyes, documenting his service in Company I, Twelfth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, Army of the United States, during 1864 and 1865. The entries for the early months of 1864 provide details of the campaigns in which Keyes participated across Mississippi. Included at the end of the diary are financial accounts for the year 1867. Presented by Robert Keyes, Jackson, Mississippi.

MCELROY GENERAL STORE (BALDWIN, MISS.) LEDGER. ca. 1915-1924. 0.47 c.f.

This ledger from a general merchandise store in Baldwin, Mississippi, apparently owned by W. L. and J. G. McElroy records customer accounts at the store. Details recorded include the type of goods purchased, the price of the goods, and the method of payment. Presented by Dorothy Vest, Ridgeland, Mississippi.

MURDOCK-SYKES FAMILY PAPERS. 1859-1864. 0.17 c.f.

This collection consists of the correspondence of Elizabeth Augusta Murdock of Columbus, Mississippi, and her husband, Dr. William E. Sykes, of Aberdeen, Mississippi. The correspondence includes courtship letters, and letters written by William E. Sykes documenting his service in the Forty-third Mississippi Regiment of the Confederate States of America. Also included are papers pertaining to the death of William Sykes in 1864 in Decatur, Alabama. Presented by Holly Ivy, New York, New York.

PILGRIMAGE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION COLLECTION, ACCRETION. n.d. 0.15 c.f.

This accretion to the records of the Pilgrimage Historical Association of Natchez, Mississippi, consists of photographs of Longwood, the octagonal mansion begun by planter Haller Nutt in the late 1850s and never completed. Presented by the Pilgrimage Historical Association, Natchez, Mississippi.

SKELTON (BILLY) MEMOIR. 2000. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of a typescript copy of "Steady As You Go," a memoir written by Billy Skelton of Jackson, Mississippi, as a "chronicle of the U.S.S. *LCI 537* and crew". The memoir includes a description of the Landing Craft Infantry (Large) vessel, and presents a history of the service of the ship and crew in 1944, particularly during the D-Day operations of the Second World War. Presented by Billy Skelton, Jackson, Mississippi.

STENNIS (JOHN C.) TRANSCRIPT. 1958. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of a photocopy of a transcription of recorded notes made by United States Senator John Cornelius Stennis of Kemper County, Mississippi, describing a trip to Europe and Russia which the senator made in 1958. In these notes, Stennis recorded detailed observations of life in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and expressed his views on future relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. Presented by John Hampton Stennis, Jackson, Mississippi.

WICKERSHAM (JEHU E.) PAPERS. ca. 1862-1864. 0.10 c.f.

The papers of Jehu E. Wickersham of Ironton, Wisconsin, consist of typescript copies and photocopies of poetry and a journal written by Wickersham during his military service in the Twelfth Regiment of the Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers during the Civil War. The journal describes campaigns undertaken by the Union army in Mississippi, including the siege of Vicksburg. Also included in the collection are photocopies of genealogical materials. Presented by Edna R. Roberts, Clinton, Mississippi.

Mississippi State University Libraries. Congressional and Political Research Center

MIKE ESPY COLLECTION

The Center has received approximately 110 cubic feet of files, memorabilia, and photographs from Espy, former U. S. Congressman from Mississippi's Second District and former U. S. Secretary of Agriculture. The Espy files will be opened, with some exceptions, as soon as processing is completed.

University of Southern Mississippi Archives

GOODMAN (JILL WAKEMAN) CIVIL RIGHTS COLLECTION, 1964-1966. .20 c.f.

Materials documenting the work of the donor with the Delta Ministry Project of the National Council of Churches in Hattiesburg, Mississippi during the Summer of 1966: canvassing and polling of African American residents regarding voter registration; problems with job discrimination; and financial, educational, and housing needs. Also in the collection are materials that pertain to the Civil Rights Movement, in general.

IN MEMORIAM

Dwight Harris, director, Division of Records Management, suffered a massive heart attack and passed away on the evening of Tuesday, May 30, 2000. Dwight joined the staff of the Department of Archives and History in 1974 upon his graduation from Belhaven College. Prior to becoming director of the Records Management Division in 1994, he had served as Archival Program Supervisor for the Official Records Section in the Archives and Library Division. Dwight was only forty-seven years old, and his unexpected death comes as a great shock to us.

Call for Papers

The editors of The Primary Source are seeking articles and reviews for upcoming issues of the journal. Submit articles etc. in hard copy and diskette form or as e-mail attachments in WordPerfect (5.0 +) or Microsoft Word (3.1 +).

Please address questions about submitting articles and other materials to be published to

either:

Irmgard Wolfe
University of Southern Mississippi
Box 5053
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5053
Phone: (601) 266-6394
Fax: (601) 266-6033
e-mail: iwolfe@ocean.otr.usm.edu

or

Sandra Boyd
Mississippi Department of Archives and
History
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39201
Phone: (601) 359-6889
Fax: (601) 359-6964
e-mail: sboyd@mdah.state.ms.us

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please send check and this application to:

Membership Chairman
Society of Mississippi Archivists
P.O. Box 1151
Jackson, MS 39215-1151

Membership Categories:

Student:	\$ 5.00
Individual	\$10.00
Institutional	\$20.00
Patron	\$25.00
	and more